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THE
ROYAL TRIBES
OF
WALES.

THE
 ROYAL TRIBES
 OF
 WALES.

BY PHILIP YORKE, ESQ. OF EARTHIG.

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 ..... et nos aliquod nomenque decusque,  
 Gessimus. ....  
 VIRG.

~~~~~

Warrham

Printed by John Painter.

~~~~~  
 1799.

ROYAL TRINITY

WALLS



OXFORD ARCHITECTURAL  
AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY.



## P R E F A C E.



*NATIONS* when first possessed of the art of writing, had their events entered on the plain page of domestic history, independent of foreign wars, and distant occurrences. Their most eminent citizens were recorded as founders of their families, and their descendants respected as links of the same chain, however unworthy they may have been of their progenitors. The Patrician families of ancient Rome, had their origin from men famous in their generations. The twelve Tribes of Israel are arranged with great accuracy, and the Phœnicians, their neighbours, were probably not more remiss in this branch of history. They traded to the mines of the Cassiterides, and planted colonies in this

island. They might have brought the tracing of pedigrees into Britain; and the Welsh are acknowledged to have assiduously continued the practice, thus supposed to have been primarily introduced. It may be asked what certainty we have of the authenticity of our early genealogies? The same as of every other species of history in other nations; the credit of ancient writers, professed genealogists; men appointed and patronized by the princes of the country, who were prohibited from following any other profession; whose records are still extant, and bear no stamp of fiction, which our poets even would not allow. What credit is to be given to the line of kings, said to have reigned in this island prior to Cæsar's invasion, or from what source Tysilio drew his brut, is not within the limits of this paper. Our most ancient existing manuscripts are the Triades, and the works of the bards of the sixth century, who celebrate in epic strains the deeds of our heroes, who fought and fell in the cause of their country. The *Gododin of Aneuryn* at that period, is a noble poem, and a curious piece of British antiquity: its plaintive numbers in sad sounds, echo the sense of the sorrowful retreat of the vanquished few, from the field of blood, of whom the bard himself was one. During the earlier centuries, the registering of genealogies was

*the province of the Arwydd-feirdd, and the Ofyddion, during their three years of probation, which preceded their initiation into the higher orders of bardism. It was then optional whether they continued to register the descents of their chiefs, but in general they did ; and a bard, and a genealogist became synonymous terms. From the ninth to the twelfth century, the genealogist, sanctioned, by royal authority, classed the first families into twenty tribes ; five termed royal, and fifteen called common. Other founders of families are recorded, but not included in the tribes, although of greater merit than some who were honoured with that distinction. Why Jestyn ab Gwrgant, a petty Lord of Glamorgan, and a character in everlasting disgrace, should be thus dignified, while he was the founder only of ignominy and loss of dominion to himself, of slaughter and slavery to his country, is difficult to adjust ; and that Brochwel Ysgithrog, a prince of Powys in its highest splendor, having Shrewsbury for his capital, and a chief of great power and martial character, should have his name omitted even in the fifteen tribes, is alike inscrutable. Our bards continued their genealogical pursuits, to the reign of Elizabeth ; from which time bardism, in all its branches, for want of the customary encouragement, suffered an*

irrecoverable decline. Copies of ancient manuscript pedigree books, falling among persons who had a value for the subject, were carefully preserved, and the descents of families continued to the present century. However numerous these may have been, two pedigree books only have appeared in print; the first by Mr. Davies, of Llansilin, in 1716, containing little more than an enumeration of the families descended from each particular tribe. The second by Mr. John Reynolds, of Oswestry, in 1739; more copious, but less correct than the former, and both alike confused and uninteresting. From the short materials thus before him, the Author hopes allowances will be made for this imperfect attempt. He is sensible to its defects; at the same time he is free to say, that he has spared no assiduities, nor left a corner untried, whence any probable information was likely to arise. He regrets that a nation, possessing so many curious documents of ancient history, as the Welsh, should have so long neglected bringing them to the light and public investigation. The *Triads*, *Tysilio*, and the rest of our historic manuscripts have yet no other dress than their British garb;\*

\* Geoffrey of Monmouth's *British History* must not be considered as a translation of *Tysilio*.

*and the Latin works of Nennius, Giraldus, Paris, Polydore, Virunnius, Pryce, Llwyd, Powel, and Caius, relative to Wales, remain yet without translations, to the disadvantage of English literature, and general information. Before he concludes, the Author (or historical collector rather) of the following sheets returns his thanks to those gentlemen who have assisted him with their communications: To John Kynaston Powel, Esq. of Hardwick; to the Rev. Samuel Strong, of Marchwiel; the Rev. Edward Edwards, of Wrexham; the Rev. Edward Davies, of Llanarmon, Dyffryn Ceiriog; the Rev. John Williams, of Llanrŷst; and the Rev. Walter Davies, of Meifod, an able Welsh antiquary, who will throw more light on this subject. The Author hopes that the portrait engravings which have been collected from the best pictures of the several persons that could be obtained, will make some amends for other deficiencies.*



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GRUFFUDD AB CYNAN ranks first of the five Royal Tribes.<sup>a</sup> He recovered his crown of North Wales from

<sup>a</sup> The five regal Tribes, and the respective representative of each, were considered as of royal blood. The fifteen common Tribes, all of North Wales, and the respective representative of each, formed the Nobility; were Lords of distinct districts, and bore some hereditary office\* in the palace. Gruffudd ab Cynan, Prince of North Wales, Rhÿs ab Tewdwr, of South Wales, and Bleddyn ab Cynfyn, of Powys, regulated both these classes, but they did not create them; as many of the persons, placed at their head, lived before their times, and some, after. Their precedence, as it stands, is very uncertain, and not governed by the dates; the last of them were created by Dafydd ab Owain Gwynedd, who began his reign in 1169. We are left ignorant of the form, by which they were called to this rank. Mr. Vaughan of Hengwrt informs us “that Gruffudd ab Cynan, Rhÿs ab Tewdwr, and Bleddyn ab Cynfyn, made diligent search after the arms, ensigns, and pedigrees of their ancestors, the Nobility and Kings of the Britons. What they discovered by their pains in any papers and records was afterwards by the Bards digested, and put into books, and they ordained five Royal Tribes, there being only three before, from whom their posterity to this day, can derive themselves, and also fifteen special Tribes, of whom the gentry of North Wales are for the most part descended.”

\* By the Laws of Hywel Dda it appears there were twenty-four great officers of the Welsh court.

<sup>A. D.</sup>  
1079 Trahaern ab Caradog, at the battle of Carno,<sup>b</sup> who had been elected by the people, without the merits of descent, on the assassination of our worthy Prince, Bleddyn ab Cynfyn.

In Gruffudd, the succession was restored. He was the son of Cynan, the son of Iago or James, the son of Meurig, the son of Idwal, the son of Anarawd, the eldest son of Roderic the Great; and had not the principality of the North alone, but the supremacy of Wales, vested in him; for it was the condition, in the tripartition of Roderic,<sup>c</sup> and confirmed by his grandson Hywel Dda, that the Princes of South Wales and Powys, should be tributary to the North.

Gruffudd owed his success at Carno to a force of Irish, devoted to his fortunes, from his relation to Auloedd<sup>d</sup> King of Dublin, Man, and the Isles; whose daughter Ranhult, widow

<sup>b</sup>The mountains of Carno, as the mountains of Gilboa, are celebrated for the fall of the mighty. The fiercest battle in our annals, happened in 1079, amidst these hills, when Gruffudd ab Cynan, assisted by Rhys ab Tewdwr, Prince of South Wales, disputed the sovereignty of North Wales, with Trahaern ab Caradog, the reigning usurper. After a bloody contest, victory decided in favour of the first, and Trahaern was slain.—*Pennant*.

<sup>c</sup>Roderic ordained that the Princes of South Wales and Powys should each of them pay yearly to the Sovereigns of North Wales, a tribute, called Maelged, of sixty-three pounds.

<sup>d</sup>Auloedd had built a castle on the Menai, near Moel y donn, called Castle Auloedd Frenin, the Castle of King Auloedd.

of Mathgany, King of Ulster, by her second marriage, was his Mother.. From the same interests, he had been supplied in a former attempt to recover North Wales, when he fixed himself in Anglesey; but pursuing his success beyond the Menai, was defeated by Trahaern at the battle of Bron yr Erw, and driven again, with great loss, within the island.

Gruffudd died in 1136, at the age of eighty-two, and lies buried on the south side of the great altar, in the Cathedral church of Bangor, having reigned fifty-seven years, through various fortunes,<sup>e</sup> and with equal interruption from his enemies the English, and his friends the Welsh. His early life was marked by spirit and success, but in his riper years, the desire of peace, and his submissions<sup>f</sup> to obtain it, tarnished his former glory. His son Owain Gwynedd more popularly succeeded

<sup>e</sup>Soon after his victory at Carno, he was treacherously surprized at Rûg by one Muriawn gôch, and, notwithstanding his late eminent success, suffered a long captivity of twelve\* years in the castle of Chester. At length he escaped by the bravery of a young man, Kynrig hîr or the tall, of Iâl; who coming to Chester, under pretence of buying necessities, took an occasion, whilst the keepers were feasting, to carry away his Prince, laden with Irons, on his back, to a place of security.—*Vita Conani*.

<sup>f</sup>Gruffudd had personal rather than political courage (often political villainy.) He had fought hand to hand with that hardy Baron Fulke Fitzwarren, who was entrusted by Henry the First with the care of the

\* This could not be: the restless spirit of the Welsh, in this course of time, would have set up another Prince; besides, it contradicts the evidence of Ordericus Vitalis, who says, that Robert of Rhuddlan was slain by Gruffudd on the third of July, 1088, which was only nine years after the battle of Carno.

him;<sup>e</sup> and it may have happened that on this account, the descendants of the tribe, have taken his coat, in preference to his father's bearings, or have borne the father's only in the second quarter. Gruffudd was accomplished: He

Marches, and was wounded by him in the shoulder, and fled; but in the end wrested from Fulke, his castle and lordship of Whittington. There was another action in which he was personally engaged; and the circumstances are very extraordinary. Robert of Rhuddlan, nephew to Hugh Lupus, and the possessor of that castle, where he then resided, received in it a visit from Gruffudd, who came to solicit his assistance against his Welsh subjects. This he obtained; but on some quarrel attacked Robert in his castle, took and burnt the baily or yard, and killed such a number of his men, that but few escaped into the towers. An extraordinary end attended Robert in a future contest, which ought to become history. On the third of July 1088, Gruffudd had entered the Cynwy, with three ships, and leaving them on the shore at low water, had proceeded to ravage the country, which belonged to Hugh Lupus Earl of Chester, the uncle of Robert. Alarmed at the descent, Robert, while his men were mustering their forces, went down to the sea side, with one soldier only, named Osborne de Orger, where he was slain, and gave up (says Ordericus,) his soul to God, and the Virgin, his men coming up too late, to save him; but they recovered his body, which was first interred at St. Walburg's, Chester, but removed afterwards to Normandy.

<sup>e</sup> Consilio felix Princeps, fortissimus armis;

Civibus, ille novus Solomon, novus hostibus, Hector.—*Pentarchia.*

Owain Gwynedd reigned thirty two years. He died in December, 1169, and lies buried at Bangor; whose tomb when Baldwyn, Archbishop of Canterbury coming to preach the Crusade against the Saracens, saw, he charged the Bishop to remove the body out of the Cathedral, when he could find a fit opportunity so to do, in regard that Archbishop Becket

reformed the Welsh minstrelsy,<sup>n</sup> and improved the national music: Himself; his mother and grandmother were born in Ireland, then the land of harps and harmony; whence he brought our best tunes, better performers, and a better order of instruments. He regulated also the family pedigrees, and heraldic distinctions of our Countrymen,

..... *Sus horridus, atraque Tygris,*  
*Squamosusque Draco, et fulvâ cervice Læna,*

and established our first game laws. Of his descendants the house of Gwydir<sup>i</sup> seems most eminent. Sir John Wynn the historian, was no ordinary character. He was made a Baronet on the creation of that honour,

had excommunicated him heretofore, because he had married his first cousin, the daughter of Grono ab Edwyn, and that, notwithstanding he had continued to live with her till she died. The Bishop in obedience to the charge, made a passage from the vault through the south wall of the church, under ground, and so secretly shoved the body into the church yard.—*Hengwrt MSS.*

<sup>n</sup>After Cadwaladr, the Princes who next undertook the reform of our minstrelsy, were Bleddyn ab Cynfyn, and Gruffudd ab Cynan. It was by them enacted, that no person should follow the profession of Bard or Minstrel, but such only as were admitted by the Eisteddfod, which was held once in three years. They were prohibited from invading each other's province, nor were they permitted to degrade themselves, by following any other occupation.—*Lewis Morris MSS.*

<sup>i</sup>Gwydir, from Gŵy, aqua, and Tîr, terra; the lands being much subject to be overflowed by the river Cynwy.

and his journey to Court, with the particulars \* kept by himself, is curious. He was a man of ability, and learned in the histories of his country, which he much embellished, nor did he neglect his common interest, but was shrewd and successful in his dealings. Hence the people were led to think he deceived and oppressed them, and it is the superstition of the place to this day, that the spirit of the old gentleman lies under the great water-fall of Rhaiadr y Wennol, or the swallow, from its swiftness, there to be punished, purged, spouted upon, and purified from the foul deeds done in his days of nature,

..... *aliis sub gurgite vasto*

*Infectum eluitur scelus, .....*

He made the *amende honorable* of that time, and founded an hospital, and endowed a school at Llanrŵst, and gave the rectorial tythes of Eglwysfâch, to the support of these charities, and left regulations for their government. In 1615 he had incurred the displeasure <sup>1</sup> of the Court <sup>m</sup> of Marches, since the Lord Chancellor Ellesmere

In the possession of the Antiquarian Society.

<sup>1</sup> He was unjustly charged (as he is pleased to say himself) with procuring a petty riot, and for entering into lands, of which he was the King's farmer.

<sup>m</sup> This Court, in the nature of a French Parliament, was first established by Edward the Fourth, who sent his son Edward to reside at Ludlow,



SIR THOMAS EGERTON VISCOUNT BRACKLEY.

*Lord Chancellor.*

*From a Picture at Erthig.*

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is informed by it, that Sir John Wynn Knight and Baronet, is unfit to be continued a member thereof, and that his name should not remain in the commission for Carnarvonshire; but he made his peace from the sure means<sup>n</sup> of that moment. The Court of James was corrupt to an extreme, and beyond the examples of any period.

Sir John died at the age of seventy-three, and lies<sup>A. D. 1626</sup> buried at Llanrŵst. By his wife Sidney, the daughter of Sir William Gerard, Chancellor of Ireland, he had eleven sons and two daughters. His eldest son John was a Knight, and died during his father's life, on his travels at Lucca, at the age of thirty-one. Domestic

under the government of his uncle Rivers.\* It was confirmed by an Act of Henry the Eighth. The Council, assisting the President, consisted of the Chief Justice of Chester, with the three other then existing Justices of Wales. There were also extraordinary members of Council called in, as the President should think proper. They were allowed six shillings and eight-pence per day, and diet for themselves and their men. "In this Court," says Mr. Lewis, "when it flourished without restraint, as many causes were dispatched in a Term, as in any Court in England, or more, and that he had himself moved in an afternoon above twenty causes, and that the Counsellor for all the motions and pleadings in one cause, in one Term, had but five shillings fee." It was dissolved at the Revolution.

<sup>n</sup> See Appendix.

\* The Welsh were so turbulent at this time, that it was thought necessary for some person of high distinction to reside on the borders, to strengthen the civil power.--*More.*

disagreements are said to have sent him so late abroad. He married Margaret<sup>o</sup> daughter of Sir Thomas Cave of Stanford in Northamptonshire, and left no issue. He was a man of observation, and some of his foreign letters remain. The father was succeeded by his son Richard, who was Groom of the Bed-chamber to Prince Charles, and attended him and Buckingham, on their matrimonial excursion to Spain, of which he left a pleasant account.<sup>p</sup> He became Treasurer to Queen Henrietta. He built the chapel at Llanrŵst, from a design of Inigo; the roof was not new, and taken from the neighbouring abbey at Maenan. Parts of that fabric may be traced at Gwydir.

*Invenias etiam disjecti membra. . . . .*

Sir Richard married a Darcy, but died without issue,

<sup>o</sup> "This Lady," says Mr. Pennant, "had four husbands. Her first was Sir John Wynn the younger; her second of the Milesian race, for she married Sir Francis Aungier, Master of the Rolls in Ireland, afterwards created Baron of Longford. Thirdly she gave her hand to an Englishman, Sir Thomas Wenman of Oxfordshire; and finally she resigned her antiquated charms to my relation, Major Pennant, a younger son of Downing, who in the year 1656 deposited her with his ancestors in the church of Whitford."

<sup>p</sup> Preserved by Thomas Hearne.

Sir Richard, in one of his letters to his father from Spain, says, "We may think ourselves happy, that have every thing in Wales, for both of the kingdoms of Castile and Arragon are not worth one of our worst counties."



SIR THOMAS MIDDLETON KNIGHT.

*From a Picture at Chirk Castle.*

*Published Aug. 1. 1798. by Philip Yorke Esq. Wrexham.*



and was buried at Wimbledon.<sup>a</sup> He was succeeded by his brother Sir Owen, who left a son Sir Richard, who married a daughter of the old cavalier Sir Thomas Middleton of Chirk castle, and had one daughter Mary, the wife of Lord Willoughby, the first Duke of Ancaster. This lady was great grandmother to the present Baroness Willoughby, married to Lord Gwydir, to whom in her right, the place belongs. The Baronetage continued and ended in Sir John Wynn of Wynnstay, the grandson of Sir John of Gwydir, by his tenth son Henry,<sup>r</sup> and the

<sup>a</sup> See Appendix.

<sup>r</sup> Henry Wynn married Catharine, the daughter and heiress of Elizei Lloyd of Rhiw gôch, in Merionethshire. Henry was no small pluralist in lay-preferment, and with a kind of law Commendam, he held together the Prothonotaryship of North Wales, was Judge of the Marshalsea, Steward of the Virge, Solicitor General to the Queen (Henrietta,) and Secretary to the Court of the Marches. He sat for the County of Merioneth, in the last Parliament of James the first, and died in 1671. This gentleman, writing to his father, Sir John, the second of April, 1624, and speaking of Parliamentary business, says, "We sit very hard from seven in the morning until one in the afternoon, and after, from two of the clock in the afternoon until seven, in relation to Recusants, state of the Navy, motion against the Lord Treasurer concerning stamps, used by him in stamping his name, which are left with his men. These some held he might lawfully use, but kept safely by him, as the Keeper doth the Great Seal. I cannot chuse but remember what was said by Sir Peter Mutton of Llannerch, in the House, Sir Edward Coke sitting in the Chair: "That this time, was not the first that stamps were used, for he had heard before he was born, that

heiress of Rhiw gôch. Sir John of Wynnstay, married Jane the heiress of Watstay.\* He changed the name as nearer his own, to Wynnstay, and in a manner made

stamps were used here, in this Kingdom." At which the whole House laughed; which is not to be forgotten in haste. To whom presently Sir Edward Coke called, Sir Peter Stamp.

\* She was the daughter and heiress of Eyton Evans of Watstay, by Anne the daughter of Dr. Powel, Vicar of Rhiwabon, the Welsh historian. Eyton Evans was the eldest son of Thomas Evans of Rhiwabon, as Wynnstay was then called, which he altered to Watstay, from its situation on Wat's Dyke. Thomas was the son of Richard Evans, the son of old Thomas Evans of Oswestry, Attorney General in the Court of the Marches. Richard married Mary Eyton, daughter and heiress of Edward Eyton of Rhiwabon. This Edward Eyton was the son of William, the younger brother of John Eyton, who suffered death at Holt, for killing William Hanmer, and died without issue; on whom a welsh Englyn was made, which signifies that in the year 1534 a great grief befel us in the death of John Eyton, an amiable Man. William, who succeeded his brother John, was the son of John Eyton of Rhiwabon, the son and heir of John ab Ellis Eyton, distinguished for his services at Bosworth, who lies buried at Rhiwabon, and his stone effigy in armour, is ornamented with a collar of SS.\* This John ab Ellis Eyton was the son of another Ellis Eyton, who was the eldest son of John hên (or the old) of Eyton and Rhiwabon. The last John was Steward of the Lordship of Bromfield and Iâl, in 1439, and, after the birth of his eldest son Ellis, he was divorced by the church, on the stale ground of consanguinity; by which ecclesiastical

\* He was an Esquire by creation, which was the fourth class of Esquires, called white spurs. The Ceremony was, that the King put about his neck a silver collar of Esses, and conferred upon him a pair of silver spurs. The five ancient orders of Esquires were, first, those who are elect for the King's body; second, Knight's eldest sons; third, younger sons of the eldest sons of Barons and other nobles of higher estate; fourth, the white spurs by creation; and fifth, they who are so by office, and by serving the Prince in any worshipful calling. This title of white spur was hereditary, and belonged only to the heir male of the family.---*Prince's Worthies*.

the place,\* which had been the residence in times past of Madog ab Gruffudd Maelor, the potent Lord of the Bromfields, and founder of the Abbey of Llanegwest. Sir John died at the age of ninety-one, and lies buried<sup>A. D. 1718</sup> at Rhiwabon, under a mass and massacre of marble, ludicrous to look on. He left Wynnstay, and his other estates of great value, to his kinsman Watkin Williams, afterwards Sir Watkin Williams Wynn, the grandfather of my spirited friend of the same name the present possessor. Sir John was a man of pleasure in his youth; late in life he made a visit to the Court, in the early days of Queen Anne, and meeting in the drawing-room after many years absence, his old Westminster school-fellow the Apostolic Beveridge of St. Asaph; "Ah, Sir John! Sir John!" says the good Bishop to him, "when

pretence Ellis was made illegitimate, yet he had the Rhiwabon estate given him. The father and mother were again married by licence, and had afterwards issue William Eyton, who in preference to his elder brother, had the Eyton estate, and was ancestor to Edward Eyton Esquire, the present possessor.

Of the House of Eyton was Madog Eyton of Eyton, Erddlis, and Bersham, who died in 1331, and was buried at Gresford on the feast of St. Matthias. He lies represented in armour in stone, on the south side within the church, in the wall.

\* In 1678 Sir John inclosed a park for deer, with a stone wall, at Wynnstay, and at the same time, the avenues of oak, elm, and ash, were planted there.

I knew you first, the Devil was very great with you." 'Yes, by Gad, my Lord,' says Sir John, 'and I wish he was half so *great* with me now.'

He was an early improver of Welsh gardening, and introduced a small swan egg pear, that is yet very popular and bears his name.

The house of Llwyn, is of this tribe and family. Maurice Wynn of Gwydir, father of Sir John the historian by his first wife, to his second married Catharine of Beren; by her he had a son, on whom he settled Llwyn; from him is descended Owen Wynn Esquire of that place, the existent male heir of the house of Gwydir.

The Wynns of Berthddu, and Bodysgallen, were of this tribe, and a younger branch of Gwydir. Gruffudd Wynn the younger brother of Maurice, and uncle to Sir John the historian, was settled at Berthddu. He married the daughter of Richard Mostyn of Bodysgallen, (the second son of Thomas<sup>u</sup> ab Richard ab Hywel ab Jevan Fychan, of Mostyn) and obtained the estate,

<sup>u</sup> "Thomas ab Richard ab Hywel first took the name of Mostyn, says Mr. Pennant, on this occasion. Rowland Lee, Bishop of Lichfield and President of the Marches, in the reign of Henry the Eighth, sat on a Welsh cause, and wearied with the quantity of Aps on the jury, directed, that the



SIR JOHN WYNNE BART

*From a Picture of Sir Godfrey Knellers at Wynnstay*

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which hath again reverted to the Mostyn family. The male line ended in Robert Wynn, who died a batchelor, and his estates fell to Margaret, (the daughter of his<sup>A. D. 1762.</sup> brother Dr. Hugh Wynn, and, by her mother, the heiress of Plâs hên, Corsygedol, and Bodidris,) married to Sir Roger Mostyn of Mostyn. The last Mr. Wynn sat for the boroughs of Carnarvonshire, and will be remembered in the annals of hospitality for his plentiful long tables and substantial Christmas dinners. He was not so fond of long sermons, especially in cold weather; and it happened that Bishop Sherlock then of Bangor, his old acquaintance, was on a visit with him at Bodysgallen, on a sunday, and observing to the Curate at dinner, that he was surprized he had given them no sermon that morning; "Ah, my Lord," says poor Ellis in his

panel should assume their last name, or that of their residence; and that Thomas ab Richard ab Hywel ab Jeuan Fychan, should be reduced in future to the poor dissyllable Mostyn."

"You may see," says Mr. L. Morris, "in some copies of Gildas Nennius, that the Cambro-British Kings used, on the first coming of the Saxons, the appellation of Mac, instead of Mâb or Fab, although now entirely disused in Wales, and preserved only in North-Britain and Ireland. It hath of late sunk into the surname there, as Macpherson, Macdonald; so Ap, properly ab, from Mâb the son, is generally lost in Wales, in the surnames Prÿs for Ap Rhÿs, Powel for Ap Howel, Parry for Ap Harry. Ap is the banter of the English, upon our pronunciation of Ab, the true abbreviation from Mâb, a son."

broad simple manner, "had I PREACHED when Master Wynn *is* in church, I *shall* have nothing but small beer; but when I do not PREACH when Master *is* in church, I may have my belly-full of ale and welcome."

The Lloyds of Rhiwaedog were of this Tribe, and of great extraction. The *materna nobilitas* was here also considerable, their ancestor Maredudd ab Jeuan, the Eighth from Owain Gwynedd, having married Margaret, the coheirefs of Einion<sup>w</sup> ab Ithel ab Gwrgeneu Fychan,

<sup>w</sup> Einion ab Ithel was Esquire to the body of John of Gaunt, who gave him a pension of twenty marks from his manor of Halghton in Cheshire, to serve him in Guienne. Ithel, on the death of Walter Lord Manny, succeeded him as Sheriff of Merionethshire for life. Ithel was in great favor with Henry the Fourth, in the beginning of whose reign he died. Jeuan ab Maredudd had matched his son Maredudd ab Jeuan with the daughter of Ithel, who belonged to the house of Lancaster. Jeuan ab Maredudd the father held stedfastly to that house, when Owain Glyndŵr rebelled; so that in the time of that war he and Hwlkyn Llwyd of Glynllifon had the charge of Carnarvon town, and an English captain was in the castle; in revenge whereof Owain burned his two houses, Cefn y fan or Ystumcegid, and Cesail Gyfarch. In the continuance of this war, Jeuan ab Maredudd died at Carnarvon, and was brought by sea (for the passage by land was shut up by Owain's forces) to Penmorfa, his parish church, to be buried. Robert ab Maredudd, the brother of Jeuan ab Maredudd, taking the contrary side, was out with Owain, as may be gathered by a pardon granted him by Henry the Fourth, and Henry his son, then Prince of Wales. From Robert, who did not marry till near eighty, descended the houses of Gwydir, Cesail Gyfarch, and Hafod Lwyfog; and Sir John the historian, his descendant, says, he was the elder brother; from Jeuan ab Maredudd, who was

ab Gwrgeneu ab Madog, ab Ririd Flaidd,\* Lord of Penllyn, who dwelt at Rhiwaedog. The eldest Son of this match, John ab Maredudd, was cousin to Owain Tewdwr, and with an hundred gentlemen of North Wales his kinsmen, he went to visit Owain, then in prison at Wysg castle. On his return within two miles of Caerlleon, being beset with enemies, favorers of the House of York, he made an oration to comfort his people, willing them to remember at that time the support of

Constable of Cruccaith, the families of Rhiwaedog, Clenennu, Ystumcegid, Brynkir and Park. It is not material which was the elder brother, the gavelkind and the custom of the country not yielding to the elder any prerogative or superiority. The father of Jeuan and Robert was Maredudd ab Hywel ab Dafydd ab Gruffudd ab Thomas ab Rodri, Lord of Anglesey, ab Owain Gwynedd, as is evident by the extent of North Wales, in the twenty-sixth of Edward the Third. During Robert <sup>ab</sup> and Maredudd's time, the inheritance, which descended to him and his brother Jeuan, was not parted after the custom of the country, by gavelkind, but Jeuan being married enjoyed both houses; Cefn y fan and Cesail Gyfarch.

\* Ririd Flaidd, Lord of Penllyn, took his surname of Blaidd, (or the Wolf,) from his maternal ancestor Blaidd Rhudd, or the Bloody Wolf, of Gêst, near Penmorfa, and in his Arms bore a Wolf passant, &c. Some Welsh verses remain concerning him, which may be thus interpreted, (the Poet speaks) "I have a friendly Wolf, that stands by me to crush the insulting foe. It is not the forest Wolf, scattering the harmless flock, but the Wolf of the field of battle; though at other times he is mild and liberal."

From Ririd Flaidd were descended the Lloyds of Rhiwaedog, the Myddeltons of Gwaynynog and Chirk Castle, the Vaughans of Glanyllyn, and the Lloyds of Glanhavon.

the honor and credit of their ancestors, and concluding that it should never be said in time to come, that there an hundred North Welsh Gentlemen fled, but that the place should carry the name and memory, that there an hundred North Welsh gentlemen were slain. Because some of his kinsmen had brought with them all their sons, and some others had but one son to succeed in their name and inheritance, as Hywel ab Llywelyn ab Hywel and others, he placed all these in the rereward, out of the fury of the fight, whilst all his own sons were in the vanward which himself led, where he was sore wounded in the face, whence he was called 'Squier y Graith, the 'Squire with the scar, to his dying day: But God gave his enemies the overthrow, he opening the passage with his sword.<sup>2</sup>

Queen Catharine being a Frenchwoman born, the relict of Henry the Fifth, knew no difference between the English and Welsh nations, until her second marriage<sup>a</sup> being published, Owain Tewdwr's kindred and

<sup>2</sup> Gwydir History.

<sup>a</sup> Soon after the death of Henry the Fifth, his Widow Catharine became enamoured by the manly graces of Owain Tewdwr. His introduction was singular: He being a courtly and active gentleman was commanded once to dance before the Queen, and in a turn, not being able to recover himself, fell into her lap as she sate on a little stool with many of her ladies about her.—*Drayton's Epistles*.

countrymen were objected to, to disgrace him as most vile and barbarous, which made her desire to see some of his kinsmen. Whereupon, Owain brought to her presence this John ab Maredudd and Hywel ab Llywelyn his near cousins, and men of goodly stature and personage, but wholly destitute of bringing up and nurture; for when the Queen had spoken to them in different languages, and they were not able to answer her, she said they were the goodliest dumb creatures that ever she saw.

At this time there happened some difference between William Griffith of Penrhyn, Chamberlain of North Wales, and John ab Maredudd, who both bore chief rule in the country; the one by reason of his authority, that all should reverence and obey him, the other in regard of his descent, kindred, and ability, acknowledging none but the Prince his superior; hence grew the debate:

.....*nec Cæsar ferre priorem,*  
*Pompeiusve parem, .....*

To John ab Maredudd his kindred and friends cleaved stedfastly, like courageous men: so then it began to be a proverb or phrase, to call the family of Owain Gwynedd Tylwydd John ab Maredudd, the race of John

ab Maredudd. This variance continued in their posterity long after, till with matches and continuance of time it was worn out.<sup>b</sup>

Our valiant countryman married Gwenhwyfar, daughter of Gronw ab Jeuan of Gwynfryn. By her he had five sons. Morys ab John ab Maredudd, the eldest, had Clenenneu, Rhiwaedog and Park, and married Angharad, the daughter of Ellis ab Gruffudd ab Einion ab Gruffudd ab Cynfrig ab Osbern<sup>c</sup> Fitzgerald. By her he had three sons; William Llwyd of Rhiwaedog; Ellis who had Clenenneu, and was Sheriff of Merioneth in 1541, and Robert who had Park. The Llwyds were extinct in the male line in William Lloyd, whose sister was the mother of the present William Lloyd Dolben Esquire, of Rhiwaedog.

<sup>b</sup> Gwydir History.

<sup>c</sup> Osbern Fitzgerald was a branch of the Desmond Fitzgeralds, who were settled in Ireland, and descended from Gerald, Constable of Windsor, a military attendant on William the Conqueror. Osbern is called Gwyddel, or the Irishman. He came into Wales in the time of Llywelyn the Great, and was much favoured by that Prince. From Osbern are descended the Vaughans of Corsygedol, the Wynns of Maes y Neuadd, the Yales of Iâl, the Wynns of Glyn in Ardudwy, whose daughter, and heiress Margaret married Sir Robert Owen of Clenenneu, Llandyn and Porkington, the grand father to the late Robert Godolphin Owen Esquire.

The Morices<sup>d</sup> of Clennenau were descended from Ellis, the second son of Morys ab John ab Maredudd. Sir William Morice of this house married the daughter and heiress of the Lacons of Llanddyn and Porkington, and the heiress of the three houses married John Owen (fourth son of Robert Owen, of Bodsilin,) of the Tribe of Hwfa ab Cynddelw. This gentleman had been Secretary to Walsingham, and made a fortune of ten thousand pounds, when his great master left not wherewith to bury him. The eldest son of this match was the memorable Sir John Owen of Porkington, Llanddyn and Clennenau, of whom I shall speak under his proper Tribe. From Robert, the third son of Morys ab John ab Maredudd, came the Anwyls of Park. They ended in an heiress, Catharine, who married Sir Gruffudd Williams of Marl and Pantglâs, a younger branch of Penrhyn. Anne, their daughter and heiress, was maid of honor to Queen Caroline; was first married to Sir Thomas Prendergast of the Kingdom of Ireland, and secondly to a gentleman of the same name and nation. She died without issue, and her estates have passed away in<sup>A. D.</sup> 1770.

<sup>d</sup> Sir William Morice, Secretary of State to Charles the second, and an instrument in his Restoration, was the son of Evan Morice, a younger brother of Clennenau, settled in Devonshire. Sir William was succeeded in his great office by another of our countrymen, Sir John Trevor, of the house of Trefalyn.

different alienations. Of a younger branch of Clenenneu, was Andrew Morice D. D. the twenty-sixth Dean of St. A. D. 1634. Asaph. He was instituted to the Deanery on the nomination of Sir Morice Abbot, Executor to Archbishop Abbot, who had made it an option. He was ejected from this and his other preferments by the Parliament, and dying in 1654 was buried in the Cathedral at St. Asaph. After his death this dignity lay vacant till the Restoration. He left a son, David Morice D. D. who held the Vicarages of Bettws\* and Abergele. He is A. D. 1692. buried in the churchyard of the former place, with the arms of Owain Gwynedd engraved on his stone, exploding as the rest of his Tribe the bearings of the Founder.

The Llwyds of Esclusham and Dulaseu, Baronets, of this Tribe, descend from Dafydd Gôch of Penmachno. The first Baronet, Sir Richard Lloyd, was governor of Holt Castle in the civil wars of the last century, and defended it vigorously, but without effect, against General Mytton. The estates passed to coheiresses; Mary married to Sir Harry Conway of Bodryddan,

\* The Vicarage House at Bettws is remarkably small, and was built by the joint efforts of Sampson and Jones, two of it's Vicars;

*Stare nequit uno cardine tanta Domus.*

Jane, to Lewis Owen of Peniarth, and Anne to Edward Ravenscroft of Bretton.

Of a younger son of Dulaseu was descended Humphrey Lloyd, Bishop of Bangor and Vicar of Gresford. He built the good substantial brick house<sup>f</sup> there, which with the church hath been much improved by my old friend, its worthy incumbent.<sup>g</sup> The Bishop built his house in the form of a cross, and the windows consisted of three lights in each window. Since the year 1576, this church has had four Episcopal Vicars; Bishop Hughes<sup>h</sup> of St. Asaph, Bishop

<sup>f</sup> See Appendix.

<sup>g</sup> The Rev. Henry Newcome.

<sup>h</sup> Bishop Hughes was of the house of Cefn Garleg, of the Tribe of Marchudd; was Bishop of St. Asaph in 1573, and died in 1600, and was succeeded by the translator Morgan. Hughes left lands and revenues for founding a Free-school at St. Asaph. He procured a faculty from the Archbishop of Canterbury, to hold that and other benefices, to the value of fifty pounds per annum, in Commendam. The Archdeaconry has since that time been annexed to the Bishoprick. Bishop Hughes (Strype says) held, in consequence of the faculty above mentioned, sixteen Livings, seven with Cures and nine Sinecures at the same time; that is to say, he had Llysfaen in 1573, Castell Caer Enion in 1574, Cwmm in 1574, Gresford in 1577, Llandrinio in 1577, Bettws yn Rhôs in 1577, Meifod in 1578, Llandrillo in Edeyrnion in 1582, Llanycil in 1582, Abergele in 1582, Llandrillo yn Rôs in 1583, Llangwm in 1585, Whitford in 1587, Mallwyd in 1587, Llanfawr in 1588, and Llanrŵst in 1592. The amount of these livings at this time would be 4000l. per annum.

Bellot<sup>1</sup> of Chester, Bishop Parry of St. Asaph, and Bishop Lloyd of Bangor. Dr. Lloyd was the third son of Richard Lloyd D. D. Vicar of Rhiwabon, and  
 A. D. 1610. was born at Trawsfynydd. He was, says Wood, a great tutor at Oriel, and becoming known to his countryman Archbishop Williams, when the King and Court were settled at Oxford, he was the means of his preferment. Bishop Lloyd died in 1688, and was buried at Bangor.

The Brynkers of Brynker were of this Tribe. They descended from Rodri, Lord of Anglesey, the second son to Owain Gwynedd by his second marriage. Their Ancestor Jeuan, the second<sup>k</sup> son of the valiant John

<sup>1</sup> Bishop Bellot was translated from Bangor, to Chester. He died at Berse Hall, or Plâs Power, in 1596, and lies buried in the Chancel at Wrexham. He was employed by Elizabeth, as one of the English Biblical Translators. It was some time before the Clergy had shaken off their monastic austerities, and Bellot would on no account admit a female into his family. Orator Herbert of Cambridge (brother to the first Lord Herbert of Cherbury) in his book of Rules to Country Parsons, lays it down, "That if he be unmarried and keep house, he hath not a woman in the house, but finds opportunities of having his meat dressed, and other services done by men servants at home, and his linen washed abroad." There was an old Divine not long since living in Anglesey, of such transparent purity, that he would not suffer his shirts either at home or abroad, to be washed in the same tub with the women's shifts.

<sup>k</sup> The third son, Robert, was slain in his father's time, in a fray near Ruthyn. Thus says the Gwydir Historian: "The Thelwals\* of Ruthyn, being

\* Of this house was Thelwal who published his digest of Writs.

ab Maredudd, was settled by his father at Brynker, an estate since alienated to the Wynns of Wern. From this house the good Lord Lyttelton on his Welsh<sup>A. D. 1755.</sup> tour, writes to Archibald Bower, and says playfully; "But what Bala is most famous for, is the beauty of it's women, and indeed I saw there one of the prettiest girls<sup>1</sup> I ever beheld; but such is my virtue that I have kissed none since I came to Wales, except an old maiden lady, a sister of Mr. Brynker, at whose house I now lodge, and who is the ugliest woman of her quality in Great Britain; but I know a Dutchess or two; I should be still more afraid of kissing than her.

The Gethins of Fedw dêg now extinct were of this

ancient gentlemen of that country, who came into it with the Lord Grey, on whom King Edward the First bestowed the country of Dyffryn Clwyd, were in contention with a septe or hundred of that country, called the family of Gruffudd Gôch. These being more in number than the Thelwals, although the Thelwals carried the whole offices of the country under the Lord there, the Lord of Kent, then treasurer of England, drave the Thelwals to take to the castle of Ruthyn for their defence, where they besieged them, until the siege was raised by John ab Maredudd, his sons and kindred, to whom the Thelwals sent for aid. In that exploit, Robert, the third son of John ab Maredudd, was slain by an arrow in a wood, called Coed Marchan, within view of the Castle of Ruthyn; in revenge whereof many of the other side were slain, both at that time and afterwards. Owain, the fourth son of John ab Maredudd, was settled at Ystumcegid, and Gruffudd at Isallt.

<sup>1</sup> This gentlewoman is still living.

Tribe. The first that bore the name was Rhÿs Gethin,<sup>m</sup> or the swarthy, ugly, terrible; he was brother to Hywel Coetmor, who anciently possessed Gwydir, sold by his son Dafydd to Maredudd ab Jeuân, Welsh nephew, or first cousin once removed, to the renowned John ab Maredudd, and ancestor to the Wynns of Gwydir. Hywel lies (with his effigy in armour) in Llanrŵst church. Rhÿs and Hywel were the sons of Gruffudd,<sup>n</sup> the son of Dafydd Gôch of Penmachno, the natural son of Dafydd, Lord of Denbigh, the brother of our last Prince Llywelyn. Dafydd, who resided at Denbigh, was seized near the place by his own Countrymen, and carried laden with irons to Edward the First, then at Rhuddlan; thence he was taken before the Parliament sitting at Shrewsbury. At this august assembly, was tried and condemned Dafydd. His perfidy to Edward, and his treasons to his country, rendered

<sup>m</sup> Rhÿs Gethin lived in the parish of Bettws y Coed near Llanrŵst, at a place called to this day Hendre Rhÿs Gethin; it is a little above Pont y Pair. His two sons, Hywel and Jeuân, had their residence on each side the river Lleder near Cromlech Hwfa, above Llanrŵst. Jeuân had a house also at Penman maen, in the Parish of Dolwyddelan.

<sup>n</sup> There is a stone figure of this Gruffudd, recumbent in armour, in the church of Bettws y Coed, with this inscription;

*Hic jacet Grufudd ab Davydd Gôch.*

*Agnus Dei,  
miserere mei*

him an object of detestation to all. Eleven Earls and an hundred Barons were commissioned to try him, as a subject of England, for he had received from Edward an English Barony,<sup>o</sup> and a pension. He was the first who suffered the death of a traitor, in the form of the sentence now in use, which he underwent in it's fullest extent; and his head, with that of his brother Llywelyn, was exposed on the highest pinnacle of the Tower of London.<sup>p</sup>

Gruffudd's encomiast, the Friar,<sup>q</sup> thus concludes his

<sup>o</sup>In the Writ for the trial of this Prince, Edward paints his ingratitude pathetically. "Quem susceperamus orphanum, ditaveramus de propriis terris nostris, et sub alarum nostrarum chlamyde foveramus; ipsum inter Majores nostri Palatii collocavimus." This last favor was made his destruction. By his acceptance of the Barony (Frodsham in Cheshire) he was held liable to be tried and condemned by the Peers of England. Cromwel pursued the same rule with the Duke of Hamilton, as Earl of Cambridge, and to a similar effect.

<sup>p</sup> Pennant.

<sup>q</sup> Gruffudd ab Cyran his troublesome life and famous acts are compiled in Welsh, says Sir John Wynn, by a most ancient Friar, or Monk of Wales; and continues the historian, this was found by the posterity of the said Gruffudd in the house of Gwydir, and at the request of Maurice Wynn Esquire,\* who had the same written in a most ancient book, and was lineally descended from him, was translated into Latin by Nicholas Robinson, Bishop of Bangor.

\* Sir John's father.

history. "Full oft the Earls of Chester met him and were defeated; full oft the men of Powys attempted his overthrow, but without effect. The friends of Trahaern projected his destruction, but could not prevail. At length he sat on a peaceful throne, surrounded with wealth and prosperity, and conducted the public with success. He lived in friendship with the neighbouring Kings; Henry the First King of England, Morchath of Ireland, and the King of Denmark and the Isles. His fame extended to distant as well as adjacent countries. North Wales wore a flourishing aspect. The people were employed in building castles, in raising churches, planting trees, orchards and gardens, and protecting them with fences and ditches. They repaired ruined fabrics, and adopted the Roman method of husbanding the produce of the soil. Gruffudd founded churches near his principal residences; his halls and entertainments were distinguished by their grandeur and magnificence. North Wales glittered with churches, as the firmament with stars. Gruffudd governed the people with a steady sceptre, and maintained peace with the neighbouring kingdoms. His sons, who were yet but young, he placed on the frontiers of the State, to guard and defend it against the bordering nations, who should renew hostilities against him. The petty Princes repaired to his Court, when they were reduced to distress by foreign

powers, to solicit his advice and protection. He was at length overtaken by old age, which deprived him of his sight. Thinking he had secured by his victories the esteem and admiration of posterity, he devoted himself to works of charity, and once thought of monastic retirement, that he might lead a life of prayer, and manifest his contempt of temporal grandeur. Perceiving his dissolution to approach, he called for his sons, put his affairs in order, and prepared for death after the example of King Hezekias. His goods he divided, and his justice will endure for ever. He left a legacy of twenty shillings to Christ-church in Dublin, where he was born and educated, and the same sum to all the principal churches in Ireland. He bequeathed twenty shillings to the church of St. David, and to the Monastery at Chester, but more to the Monastery of Bangor; ten shillings to Holyhead, the same to Penmon, to Celynnog, to Enlli, to Meifod, Llanarmon, Dinerth and many other principal churches. He did not forget the Bishop, Archdeacon, and the rest of the Priests of Bangor, and bound them by legacies to defend the Holy Spirit, the searcher and knower of all things. Then David the Bishop, Simeon the Archdeacon, a man of mature age and experience, the Prior of Chester, with many other religious and learned men, came to anoint his body with oil, in conformity to the injunctions

of the Apostle James. His sons were among them, and he blessed them and foretold their fortune, and what peculiar character each would support, as the Patriarch Jacob did on taking his dying leave of his sons in Egypt. And he solemnly enjoined them to combat their enemies with vigor and constancy, after the examples he had set them.

Angharad his Queen was present, to whom he bequeathed one half of his personal estate, with two Rhandir or portions in land, and the customs at Abermenai. His daughters and nephews were also present, and he left to each a legacy sufficient to their maintenance.

The Welsh, the Irish, and the men of Denmark, lamented Gruffudd, as the Jews mourned for Joshua the son of Nun. He was eighty-two years old, and was  
 A. D.  
 1136. buried on the left side of the great altar at Bangor.

And let us pray that his soul may enjoy rest in the bosom of God, with the souls of other pious and good Kings, for ever. *Amen.*

Gruffudd in his person, was of moderate stature, having yellow hair, a round face, and a fair and agreeable complexion, eyes rather large, light eyebrows, a comely beard, a round neck, white skin, strong limbs,

long fingers, straight legs, and handsome feet. He was moreover skilful in divers languages, courteous and civil to his friends, fierce to his enemies, and resolute in battle; of a passionate temper, and fertile imagination.

He married Angharad, the daughter of Edwyn ab Grono, the founder of the tribe of that name; and by her had three sons and five daughters. Our Friar in his singular and digressive manner, thus describes her. She was an accomplished person; her hair was long and of a flaxen colour, her eyes large and rolling, and her features brilliant and beautiful. She was tall and well proportioned, her leg and foot handsome, her fingers long, and her nails thin and transparent. She was good tempered, cheerful, discreet and witty, gave advice as well as alms to her needy dependants, and never transgressed the laws of duty.



## RHYS AB TEWDWR.

THE Founder of our second royal tribe was Rhys ab Tewdwr, distinguished by the name of Mawr,\* or the Great. In him the legal succession of South Wales was restored.† He was moreover the choice of the people, on the murder of the usurper Rhys ab Owain. With Gruffudd ab Cynan† he shared the victory at Carno; and the fortunes of that field, set them both on their hereditary thrones. His first adversities had a slight beginning, which in the end led to his destruction. Einion and Llywelyn, sons of the Lord of Dyfed and chiefs of some eminence in South Wales revolted,

\* Major.

† Rhys was the son of Tewdwr, the son of Einion, the son of Owain, the eldest son of Hywel Dda, the legal Prince of South Wales; but elected to the North, in preference to the sons of Idwal foel, the right heirs.

† Gruffudd ab Cynan had landed from Ireland at Port clÿs,\* near St. David's. Rhys, defeated by Trahaern, had taken sanctuary at that place; and hearing of Gruffudd's arrival, he went with all the clergy to meet him; and, falling on his knees, implored his help against his adversaries, promising to do him homage, and to reward him with a moiety of his revenues. Gruffudd, pitying his condition, yielded to his request; and having together overthrown their common enemy, Rhys was put into the quiet possession of South Wales.—*Panton Papers*.

\* Port Clÿs near St. David's meant only some fortified spot in that neighbourhood, quasi pars pro toto. It is a name borrowed from the English Portcullis, and that from the Latin Porta clausa.

but were defeated, and fled; Einion to Iestyn ab Gwrgant,<sup>u</sup> Lord of Glamorgan, whom Rhÿs had raised to a royal tribe. Him Einion<sup>w</sup> associated in rebellion,

<sup>u</sup>In the year 1091, Iestyn, Lord of Glamorgan, rebelling against Rhÿs ab Tewdwr, Prince of South Wales, invited many Barons and Knights out of England to his aid, when, joining his power to them, he led them to Brecknock. Then Bleddyn ab Maenyrch, Lord of Brecknock, whose wife was sister to Rhÿs, sent instantly to him for succour; when making the best levy he could on the sudden, he came forthwith to Brecknock, and joined himself with Bleddyn and his men; and being far less in number than their adversaries, they very unadvisedly fought a most dismal battle to all South Wales; for they both falling by the sword, left it a prey to strangers, and the welfare of their children at the mercy of their enemies. Then Bernard Newmarch, or Newmarket, a Norman, seized upon the Lordship of Brecknock, the possession of which remained in his blood, until the time of Henry the Eighth, when, by the attainder of the last Edward Stafford it came to the Crown.—*Panton Papers*.

<sup>w</sup>Einion a discontented Welsh nobleman, persuades Iestyn, Lord of Morgannwg (or Glamorgan) to implore aid from England against Rhÿs, Prince of South Wales. Led by Robert Fitzhamon, twelve Knights (namely, de Londres, Grenville, Turburville, St. Quintin, Seward, Umphreville, Berkerolles, Sully, Le Soer, Le Fleming, St. John and Sterling) with their followers, willingly attended the call; defeat Prince Rhÿs, and are nobly rewarded by Iestyn. They were on the point of departing and on shipboard, when Einion, (whom Iestyn had treated ungratefully) persuades them to return, and to revenge his cause, by driving the thankless Welsh Lord from his dominions. This they accomplished, and allotted to Einion the craggy and mountainous districts, and kept possession of the rest, settling their families in the country. This Colony with the Flemings settled by Henry the First in Pembrokeshire, proved fatal to the independence of South Wales.

and together they brought the Normans under Robert Fitzhamon, a Baron of England, and gentleman of the chamber to William Rufus, and with his counsel and concurrence. The old and gallant Rhÿs met<sup>\*</sup> them near Brecknock, was unsuccessful, and fell gloriously in the ninetieth year of his age, and the fourteenth of his reign. By his wife the daughter of Rhiwallon, the brother of Bleddyn ab Cynfyn, he left two sons; Gruffudd, who succeeded him, and Grono, at the time of his father's death a prisoner in England, where he died.

With Rhÿs sunk the sun of South Wales, and all its glories; his successor Gruffudd being stiled Lord only of that country. He was sent for security to Ireland, where he remained till he was twenty-five years of age. He came then secretly to South Wales, to visit his sister Nêst, the beautiful<sup>y</sup> mistress of Henry

<sup>\*</sup> Queis iter aggressis, occurrit Rhesus in armis;  
Undique concurrunt acies; pugna aspera surgit,  
Ingruit armorum rabies; sternuntur utrinque;  
Sternitur Haymonis pubes, sternuntur et Angli,  
Proque focus, Cambri, dum vos certatis, et aris:  
Acriter et pugnans, medio cadit agmine Rhesus,  
Cum quo totus honor cecidit, regnumque Silurum.—*Pentarchia.*

<sup>y</sup> Her beauty had excited Owain, the wicked son of Cadwgan ab Bleddyn to an atrocious act. He burst into the castle of Pembroke by night, and carried off Nêst and her children to Powys, her husband escaping

the First, and who brought him his eminent son Robert of Gloucester.<sup>2</sup> She was now married to Gerald de Windsor, by the favor of Henry, Constable of Pembroke. Gruffudd remained in South Wales, till he raised the suspicions of Henry, who engaged Cynan Prince of North Wales, the father in law and great uncle to Gruffudd, to seize and imprison his son and nephew.

Gruffudd fled to the church of Aberdaron, and Cynan attempting to force the sanctuary, was resisted by the Clergy, which gave Gruffudd time to escape and to reach the wilds of Ustrad-Towi. Here he collected his friends, sallied forth, and destroyed the possessions of the English. He extended his ravages to Dyfed, attacked Carmarthen, demolished the town and dismantled the castle; but attempting Aberystwyth, was surprized, defeated, and driven again within the wildernesses of

very narrowly; and the castle was left in flames. Whether she yielded to the ravisher from choice or necessity is left in doubt; but Owain sent back to Gerald his children at her request.

<sup>2</sup> Robert Earl of Gloucester, was very eminent as a soldier, as a statesman and scholar. He restored his nephew Henry the Second, to the throne of England; Geoffrey of Monmouth dedicates to him his Latin translation of Tysilio; and Robert was a general friend to learning, and learned men, in that early age of English literature. William of Malmesbury, the Poet and historian, was patronized by him.

Ustrad-Towi. Henry once more attempted his destruction.<sup>a</sup> I find him next restored to his favor, but on a false accusation was ejected from lands, which that Prince had given him.

A. D.

1135. On the accession of Stephen, hostilities were renewed,

<sup>a</sup> Henry engaged the wicked Owain ab Cadwgan to assassinate Gruffudd, or to make him prisoner. Robert of Gloucester, the nephew of Gruffudd, by his sister Nêst, was employed in the same service. Owain, at the head of an hundred men, on entering the forest at Ustrad-Towi, perceived the footsteps of men; he pursued, killed some, and dispersed the rest; then seizing on their cattle, he returned with his plunder towards the main body. At this time Gerald, the Constable of Pembroke, made his appearance, intending to join the King's forces. Meeting the people who had fled from Owain, they complained of the injury they had just received, and implored his assistance. In an instant the idea of revenge rushed on his mind for the insults his honor had received by the outrage Owain had committed on his wife. He instantly entered the forest in pursuit of that Chief, who, being warned by his followers of the approaching danger, refused to fly, confident that his pursuers intended him no injury, they like himself being vassals of the King of England. As soon as Gerald and his forces drew near, they discharged a volley of arrows. Owain finding his mistake, with much spirit called on his men to support him, telling them, that, though their enemies were seven to one in number, they were only Flemings, who would be affrighted at the name of a Welshman, and distinguished by nothing but drinking deep at carousals. On the first onset, Owain ab Cadwgan was slain, an arrow having pierced his heart. His death dispirited his followers, and gave them so great distrust of the King's forces, that they dispersed and returned into their own country. In this manner, says Warrington, died suitably to the tenor of his life, this bold and profligate Chieftain.

and Gruffudd solicited the aid of North Wales, to recover his inheritance. Accordingly he went into that country, and in his absence, his wife, Gwenllian, a woman of an high spirit, collected her friends, and with her sons entered Cydweli, the land which the ancestors of Maurice de Londres had ravished from her family. Gruffudd ab Llywelyn, who commanded for Maurice, and was an enemy to Gruffudd, met Gwenllian, and a bloody scene ensued, wherein Gwenllian<sup>b</sup> and her son Morgan, were defeated and slain, and her son Maelgwn made prisoner.

In the succeeding year Gruffudd in concert with Owain and Cadwaladr<sup>c</sup> the sons of Gruffudd ab Cynan made a successful irruption on South Wales, and

<sup>b</sup>The place where this battle was fought, is to this day called, Maes Gwenllian, Gwenllian's Field. Warrington (but he speaks doubtfully) thinks Gwenllian was taken and beheaded after the battle. But I hope that was not the case:

..... *Nullum memorabile nomen*  
*Famineâ in pânâ est, nec habet victoria laudem.*

<sup>c</sup>Cadwaladr's daughter had married Anarawd, the son of Gruffudd ab Rhys. A violent dispute having arisen between the father and the son in law (who were in the relation of uncle and nephew also) it was decided by single combat, in which Anarawd fell;

..... *animosus Anarawd*  
*A socero cæsus* ..... Pentarchia.

returned with a large booty;<sup>a</sup> no light object in the warfare of that period.<sup>c</sup>

A. D.  
1137. This year (says Powel) died Gruffudd ab Rhÿs ab Tewdwr, "the light, honor and support of South Wales;" who by his wife Gwenllian, the daughter of Gruffudd ab Cynan, had Rhÿs his son who succeeded.

Our Chroniclers are encomiastic of this character. The Lord Rhÿs ab Gruffudd, say they, "was no less remarkable in courage, than in the stature and lineaments of his body, wherein he excelled most men." In 1143 he distinguished himself against the Normans, and

<sup>d</sup> . . . . . prædæ et spoliolum ardebat amore.

<sup>e</sup> In this expedition they had a conflict with the Flemish, the Normans, and the English, near Cardigan; in which the latter were defeated, and lost three thousand men. In consequence of this event the Countess of Clare, the sister of the Earl of Chester, a widow lady singularly handsome, was left in a castle attended by many female attendants, distant from every friend, and surrounded by the Welsh, who menaced her with every possible indignity. The poor Countess and her damsels had already felt each horror by anticipation, when they were unexpectedly relieved by the romantic gallantry of Milo Fitzwalter who encouraged by King Stephen, and accompanied by a few chosen warriors rode night and day to the beleaguered fortress, and although he found it environed by numbers of Welsh, brought away the Ladies inviolate.—*Gerald Camb.*

Few anecdotes redound more to the honor of that spirit of chivalry, which almost alone illumined the gloom of the early Centuries.—*I. P. A.*

Flemish, in Dyfed. His life was a continued warfare, too much engaged against his countrymen and relations; exhausting the national strength in domestic hostilities.<sup>f</sup> On the submission of North Wales to the Second Henry, and in the pacification which ensued, Rhÿs was not included, but alone supported himself against the English, and obtained terms from them. In the absence of Henry in Normandy, Rhÿs renewed the war, encouraged by the Welsh prophecies, that the King would not return. Henry however was soon in South Wales, and Rhÿs unable to resist, submitted to do him homage, and gave hostages for his obedience. This ceremony was performed at Woodstock, and Rhÿs swore fealty to the English King, and to Henry his son.

The following year he is again in arms, and, invading <sup>A.D.</sup> 1163, Cardigan, subdued that country.<sup>g</sup> Encouraged by his success the spirit of contention became general in Wales; the Prince of the North, Owain Gwynedd, and all his

<sup>f</sup> . . . . . ne tanta animis assuescite bella :  
Neu patriæ validas in viscera vertite vires.

<sup>g</sup> In revenge of the death of his nephew, Einion, who was murdered by his servant, Walter ab Llywarch, at the instigation of Clare Earl of Gloucester.

. . . . . *impiger Einon,*  
( *Proh dolor !* ) *a famulo jugulatus fraude Lomarcho.*—Pentarchia.

sons, his brother Cadwaladr, and the Lord of Powys joined Rhÿs. Their first attack under Dafydd, the son of Owain Gwynedd, and with success, was on Flintshire.

Some forces had been raised in Henry's absence, for the reduction of Rhÿs; with these the King of England marched to Oswestry. I here omit the history of this event, which was disastrous to the English, and very honorable to the Welsh, as it appertains to the next tribe; but it should seem disgraceful to Henry,<sup>h</sup> that in revenge of his disappointment, he put out the eyes of his Welsh hostages, among whom were two sons of Rhÿs,<sup>i</sup> and two of Owain Gwynedd. Rhÿs pursued his success in South Wales, took the castles of Cardigan and Cilgarran; the last, a place of great importance, and in it his cousin Robert,<sup>k</sup> the son of Nêst his aunt, in her second marriage with Stephen, Constable of Cardigan.

In 1169 Henry was at Pembroke, on his passage to Ireland. Rhÿs met and presented him with eighty-six horses, of which the King accepted thirty-six, and

<sup>h</sup> "Barbarity," says Mr. Andrews, "to hostages was not esteemed a crime in the early ages."

<sup>i</sup> Obses ab Henrico cæcatus rege secundo.—*Pentarchia*.

<sup>k</sup> This Robert, surnamed Fitzstephen, was one of the first invaders of Ireland, with Strongbow Earl of Pembroke, under Henry the Second.

returned the remainder. Rhÿs was restored to his peace, and Henry gave him Cardigan, Ustrad-Towi, Arustli and Elfel: He also paid him a visit at Tÿ gwyn, and restored his son Hywel, who had been long an hostage in Henry's hands. On the return of Henry from Ireland, Rhÿs attended him at Talycarn, and was made Justice<sup>1</sup> of South Wales. Hence he was attached to the English interests, and an instrument in the subjection of his country; and he brought all the Lords of South Wales, who had usually opposed Henry, to do homage to that Prince at Gloucester.<sup>m</sup>

In 1176 he made a great feast<sup>n</sup> in his castle of Car-

<sup>1</sup> This office, which was hereditary, continued to the twenty-seventh of Henry the Eighth, and ended in the Lord Ferrers of Chartley.

<sup>m</sup> ..... dominumque potentem  
Imposuit .....

<sup>n</sup> In 1176 the Lord Rhÿs made a great feast at Christmas in his castle of Cardigan, on finishing that fortress; and he caused it to be proclaimed throughout all Britain a year and a day beforehand. Thither came many strangers, which were honorably received, and worthily entertained, so that no man departed discontented. And among deeds of arms and other shews, Rhÿs caused all the Poets of Wales, which are makers of songs and recorders of gentlemen's pedigrees and arms, to come thither; and provided chairs for them to be set in his hall, where they should dispute together, to try their cunning and gift in their faculties; where great rewards and rich gifts were appointed for the overcomers. Among them they of North Wales won the prize of poetry; and among the musicians,

digan, to which he invited many Normans and English. These civilities were of short continuance, for the same year they treacherously murdered his son-in-law Einion. To awe them, Rhÿs built the castle of Rhaidar, in precipitous, strong ground (near the noted cataract of that name) above the Wye.

In 1182 the Sheriff of Hereford, Ranulph de Poer, murdered the Lord of Gwent, a welchman of distinction. In revenge, his countrymen put Poer to death, with many of his friends. Henry in wrath marched to Worcester, where Rhÿs met and appeased him, and promised his sons and nephews as hostages; but the young men, considering how former pledges had been treated, refused to appear, and Henry seems satisfied without them.

In 1186 Rhÿs lost his son Cadwaladr, by a private assassination; and his kinsman, Llywelyn, the grandson of Gruffudd ab Cynan, was imprisoned by his brothers, who put out his eyes.<sup>o</sup>

A. D.

1189. On the death of Henry the Second,<sup>p</sup> Rhÿs renewed

Rhÿs's own household-men, and in particular the son of Eytyn the Crythor, were accounted the best.—*Guttun Owain*.

<sup>o</sup> Hic quibus invisi fratres . . . . .

<sup>p</sup> "Henry," says Carte, "used to tire all his Court with continual standing,

hostilities,<sup>4</sup> and took the castles of St. Clare, Abercorran and Llanstephan; and in the last his son, Maelgwyn then in rebellion against him.

Returning with success,<sup>5</sup> he lost his daughter, Gwenllïan, a lady of great beauty and accomplishments, the wife of Ednyfed Fychan (the able General and Minister to Llewelyn the Great) and the great great grandmother to Owain Tewdwr, the grandfather of Henry the Seventh.

During the absence of Richard and his imprisonment in Germany, Rhÿs pursued the war, and subdued South Wales. A cruel feud now arose among his sons, although allied against their father; and Anarawd, having taken his brothers Hywel and Madog prisoners, put out their

and suffered himself so much by this practice, never sitting but when he eat or rode, that it was supposed to be, in conjunction with the kicks he received from horses, the cause of the swelling of his legs, and to have hastened the breaking up of his constitution.

<sup>4</sup>Rhÿs was highly esteemed by Henry the Second, insomuch that whenever he came to his court, the King always in person, with his Nobles, was wont to receive him. But after the death of Henry, the Lord Rhÿs coming to England, Richard the First did not honour him, as his father was wont to do. Rhÿs was much displeased, and returned home without speaking to the King. This happened at Oxford.—*Passim*.

<sup>5</sup> Hi nostri reditus, expectatique triumphî!

eyes. Soon after they took and imprisoned the father himself, who recovered his liberty through his blind son Hywel.

In 1197 the plague raged in Wales, and this restless chieftain perished in it, and was buried at St. David's. By his wife Gwenllïan, the daughter of Madog ab Maredudd, Lord of Bromfield, he had four sons and two daughters. He<sup>o</sup> was succeeded by his elder son, Gruffudd. The first I learn of him is in an English prison, whither he had been sent by his wicked brother, Maelgwyn, and his brother-in-law, Gwenwynwyn. He was released by the English Justiciary, Fitzpeter, who assisted him also in their defeat. Gruffudd died in 1202 on St. James's Day, and was buried at Ustrad-fflur. He was succeeded by his elder son Rhÿs. Rhÿs died in 1222, being, says Powel, "*a lusty gentleman.*" His inheritance was divided between his brother,

<sup>o</sup> Hi motus animorum atque hæc certamina tanta,

<sup>o</sup> Pulveris exigui jactu, compressa quiescent.

<sup>o</sup> Rhÿs was the eldest of six towardly sons, that his father, Gruffudd, had by Gwenllïan, the fair daughter of Gruffudd ab Cynan, Prince of North Wales; and he, surviving them all, obtained the dominion of South Wales, which he well and worthily ruled.\*—*Panton Papers.*

\* Spes Patriæ, columen pacis, lux urbis et orbis;  
Gentis honos, decus armorum, fulmenque duelli;  
Quo neque pace prior, neque fortior alter in armis.--*Pentarchia*

Owain, and his uncle, Maelgwyn. Owain married Angharad, daughter of Maredudd ab Robert, Lord of Kedewain, and left two sons, Llywelyn and Maredudd: Of the elder I learn nothing, but that he left a son, Thomas. Maredudd, the younger brother of Llywelyn, was better known, and, says Powel, "this year died <sup>A. D.</sup> 1268. Maredudd ab Owain, the defender of South Wales." Thomas married the daughter and heiress of Philip, Lord of Iscoed, and by her had a daughter, Elen, who married Gruffudd Fychan, Lord of Glyndyfrdwy, and by him was mother to our great Glyndŵr.

I find but five descendent families from this Tribe; Wynn of Dôl-Bachog,\* Owen of Cefn-Hafod, Lloyd of Plâs-uwch Clawd, Evans of Tre-Castell, and Jones of Haim.

\* Of the Dôl-Bachog family I can trace nothing. Of Cefn-Hafod I am equally ignorant, as of the Lloyds of Plâs-uwch Clawd near Rhiwabon, and Jones of Haim. But there is a place called Haim wood, near the junction of the Severn and Vernew. Mr. Evans of Towyn is of the Tre-Castell family.



## BLEDDYN AB CYNFYN.

**B**LEDDYN AB CYNFYN ranks the third Royal Tribe. He had a title to Powys in female succession from his great grandmother, Angharad;\* but his crown of North Wales, was usurpation, in common at first with his brother, Rhiwallon, who fell ~~four years after~~ in the  
A. D. 1068. battle of Mechain; and the whole was then his own. From his Father, Cynfyn ab Gwerystan, he had no claims; by his mother, the daughter and heiress of Maredudd ab Owain, Prince of South Wales, he was half brother to Gruffudd ab Llywelyn ab Seísyllt, the preceding Prince of North Wales,† who was himself an usurper also; moreover on the death of Owain ab

\* Angharad was the granddaughter and heiress of Merfyn, the third son of Roderic the Great, in whose favor his father gavelled off the Principality of Powys, which comprehended Montgomeryshire, parts of Shropshire, and parts of the present Counties of Brecknock, Denbigh, and Radnor.

† This warlike Prince was put to death by his own subjects, and his head sent to Harold, who commanded the armies of the Confessor Edward with success against our countrymen. Harold brought Gruffudd's widow out of Wales, and married her; she was sister to the powerful Saxon Earls, Edwyn and Morcar, the sons of Algar, and grandsons of Leofric, Earl of Mercia; which latter led an army against Swane, King of Denmark in 1003, and died in 1057, being the husband of the famous Godina, who freed Coventry from an heavy tax, and gave rise to the well-known story of Peeping Tom.

Edwyn, Bleddyn accumulated the sovereignty of South Wales, again uniting the whole dominion of his maternal ancestor Roderic; and like him gavelling his lawful inheritance, he divided Powys between his sons Maredudd, and Cadwgan.

It remained not long separate, but was reunited in Maredudd on the murder of his brother Cadwgan, (a superior person of that time, whom Camden calls "the renowned Briton,") by their nephew Madog, the son of Ririd, the fifth son of Bleddyn ab Cynfyn; and the extinction of his nephews the sons of Cadwgan, by Maredudd himself.

The story of our country under its native Princes is a wretched calendar of crimes; of usurpations, and family assassinations; and in this dismal detail we should believe ourselves rather on the shores of the Bosphorus, (things oddly coincident<sup>z</sup>) than the banks of the Dee.

<sup>z</sup> The Celts or Gauls were descended from Gomer, the eldest son of Japhet, who was the eldest son of Noah, and from the Provinces of the Upper Asia they migrated to the countries on the Lake Meotis, on the North side the Euxine Sea; and, as they were called Cimmericians in Asia, so they communicated their name to that famous Strait, which has been since called Cimbrian or Cimmerician Bosphorus. Here they had not

Our Law of distribution the custom of gavelkind,<sup>a</sup> had the same ill effect, applied to the succession as the freedom of the State; it balanced the power and raised the competition of the younger branches against the elder; a Theban war of Welsh brethren ending in family blood, and national destruction. Nor was the elder more

continued long, when the increase of their progeny made it necessary to penetrate farther into the country, and, as it is supposed they fell down the Danube, along whose banks they encamped, as their manner of life was, for the convenience of their cattle; and so shaping their course Westward, entered Germany, from whence they advanced into France; for the Inhabitants of France, as Josephus tells us, were anciently called Gomerites, as being descended from Gomer; and from France they came at length into the Southern parts of this Island. And therefore we find that the Welsh, the ancient proprietors of Britain, called themselves Gomeri or Cymry, and their language Cymmraeg; which words bear so great analogy to the original appellation, from whence they are derived, that we may reasonably conclude the true ancient Britons, or Welsh, to be the genuine descendants of Gomer, the eldest son of Japhet. But this will be farther evinced from the affinity between the Celts or Gauls, and the ancient Britons, with respect to religion, language, laws, and customs.—*Owen's History*.

“<sup>a</sup> What aggravated this mischief,” says Lord Lyttelton, “ was another ancient custom which prevailed among the Chieftains, and Kings of Wales of sending out their infant sons to be nursed and bred up in different families of their principal Nobles or Gentlemen; from whence it ensued, that each of these foster fathers, attaching himself with a strong paternal affection to the child he had reared, and being incited by his own interest to desire his advancement above his brothers, endeavoured to procure it by all the means in his power. Thus, as most of their Kings cohabited with several women who generally brought them many children, several parties were

delicate, accumulating again by every means his broken patrimony. It might apply to the colonization of new countries, and was in this, the only manner of portioning our children. It is yet distinguishable in Welsh lands; and still intermixing them, may sometimes interfere with a compact demesne, and the pleasures and space of modern gardening and home improvements, but the liberal spirit of our gentry hath much lessened by reasonable exchanges, these last inconveniencies of this ancient distribution. The term *gafel*, in the Welsh, implies an holding, because each son held a share in his father's land, and the youngest had a claim to the paternal residence.

Maredudd ab Bleddyn, to quote our dry monk, and historical<sup>b</sup> collector Caradog of Llangarfan, "under

formed among their Nobility, which breaking out at their deaths, involved their kingdoms in blood and confusion. Minors were never allowed to reign; but it often happened that when a Prince, excluded in his infancy, attained to manhood, he then aspired to the throne he had lost on account of his nonage, and found a party to assist him in those pretensions."

<sup>b</sup> Our most ancient British History is called *Brut y Brenhinoedd*, or the Chronicle of the British Kings, because it concludes with Cadwaladr the last King; and to distinguish it from the continuation by Caradog, which is called *Brut y Tywysogion*, or the Chronicle of the Princes. It begins with the Trojan colony, and ends with the reign of Cadwaladr, the abdicated King of the Britons. It hath gone among us under the

severe contrition for his hellish practises against his brothers and nephews," died in 1132. He was, notwithstanding a man of spirit and abilities, but his ambition to unite Powys, led to great cruelties and oppression. His conduct and courage, when attacked

name of Tyssilio, a bishop, the supporter of the British Church against the usurpations of Austin the monk, and the son of Brockwel Ysgithrog;\* but he seems to have been only the continuer of it,† from the Roman conquest to his own time, about the year 660. It was afterwards continued to the death of Cadwaladr, by some other hand. Caradog, of the Abbey of Llangarfan, collected and continued this history to the year 1156. The Monks of Conway, and Ustrad-fflur pursued it to 1270, just before the death of the last Prince. Humphrey Llwyd translated this book from Welsh into English, adding some things from Matthew Paris and Nicholas Trivet, but died before he published; and it was left in the hands of Sir Henry Sidney, President of Wales, who recommended to Dr. Powel to augment and print it, which he did, and dedicated to Sir Philip Sidney, the son of Sir Henry, in 1584. The Monks of Ustrad-fflur and Conway seem purposely to have discontinued their history, unwilling to relate the final conquest of their country, and the death of Llywelyn. This part was completed by Humphrey Llwyd himself, assisted by the collections of Guttyn Owain.

A. D.  
606.

\* Brochwel commanded the Britons at their memorable defeat near Chester, which led to the massacre of the Monks of Bangor Monachorum. His son Tyssilio, besides his Welsh work, wrote an Ecclesiastical History of Britain, which Archbishop Usher said he had seen. There is also a short dialogue in Welsh verse between two Monks extant, which is ascribed to Tyssilio. From Ysgithrog are many descendants, chiefly in Montgomeryshire, and I have given in the Appendix with truth the character of one of them, whom I had the pleasure of knowing well -- *Appendix, Blayney.*

† This is the history so miserably mangled by Geoffrey of Monmouth in his Latin translation. "If Geoffrey," says Mr Morris, "had worded the exploits of Corineus and Arthur, as the original history in the British tongue required, there would not have been that air of fable in his translation." Most of the objections of Camden, Milton, Burton, Nicholson, &c. took their rise from their falling foul of a bad translation, instead of an Original, which they had never seen.

by Henry the First of England, and deserted by Gruffudd ab Cynan, the reigning Prince of North Wales, does him credit. He defended the passes into Powys with judgment and success; and Henry, endangered in these defiles, was struck by an arrow, that his armour resisted, which he said came not from a Welsh, but an English bow; and offering terms to Maredudd withdrew his army on the receipt of a small sum of money and a thousand cattle.

Maredudd died fourteen years after, in entire subjection to the English Prince. He had married two wives; by his first, Hunydd, the daughter of Eunydd<sup>c</sup> ab Gwernwy, the founder of the Tribe of Dyffryn Clwyd and Allington, and one of the Fifteen of North Wales, he had several children; by the second, Eva, the daughter of Blettrws ab Ednowain, and granddaughter to Ednowain bendew, one of the Fifteen, in

<sup>c</sup> Eunydd was the son of Gwenllïan,\* the daughter of Rhŷs ab Marchan. This is the lady that is commonly stiled the heiress of Dyffryn Clwyd. She had great possessions in it, having the property of seven townships, in the neighbourhood of Ruthin. Bleddyn ab Cynfyn married her to his cousin Gwernwy, and, to make him a suitable match for her, and in reward of his military services to himself, bestowed upon him seven townships; Almor, Trefalun, Gresford, Allington, Lleprog fawr, Lleprog fechan

\* Gwenllïan, id est, White Linen. Linen was so rare in the reign of Charles the Seventh of France, who lived about the time of our Henry the Sixth, that the Queen of France could boast of two shifts only, of that commodity.

him first erected also, he had a son, Iorwerth gôch, or the red Edward, who married Maud daughter to Roger de Manley, by whom he was father to Sir Gruffudd Fychan,<sup>d</sup> Lord of Crigion and Bergedwyn; ancestor to the several houses of the Kynastons. He was called the wild Knight of Caer Hywel, from his romantic life, and the seat of his residence of this name in Montgomeryshire.

To return to Maredudd. That sole possession, which unhappily to himself was obtained in Powys, did he again mutilate and divide (but it was our custom so to do) between his eldest son Madog, and his grandson Owain Cyfeiliog, the son of his younger son Gruffudd, who died before him. And here it may be necessary

and Trefnant. Ithel, the son of Eunydd, had six sons, who jointly gave the land whereon the parish church of Gresford is built; "this is a fact well known," says Lewis Dwnn. The sepulchres of the grandchildren of the said Ithel ab Eunydd are in the church of Gresford. Should not the gentlemen of this Tribe carry their ancestress's Arms, azure a fess or between three nags' heads, erased Argent; at least quartered with their own, since she was so considerable an heiress.

<sup>d</sup> Sir Gruffudd was a Knight of Jerusalem, originally the Order of the Holy Sepulchre there; whence removing, they were incorporated with the Knights Hospitalers or Templars, then resident at Rhodes; and until this direful French visitation, which has plundered their estates, and ruined their commanderies in that country, were continued in respect as Knights of Malta.

and at some length, to mark the partitions since made, as the source of families from this Tribe. To the share of Madog was the division of Powys given, from him named Fadog; a mutability in initial consonants, to harmonize and vary the diction, frequent in our own and not uncommon in other languages; to Owain the upper moiety, which, from his son Gwenwynwyn, was called Powys Wenwynwyn.\*

Madog ab Maredudd, who succeeded as Lord of Bromfield,<sup>f</sup> a title taken on the partition by this line of the Powysian Princes, was a leading man of those times; having to his own power in Powys united that of his nephew and ward Owain. He was the constant confederate of Rondel the Third, and of his son Hugh Cyfeiliog, the fourth Earl of Chester.

Madog was the ally also of Henry the second in his welsh wars, and commanded his navy in an unsuccessful attempt on Anglesey: nor was he more fortunate against his countrymen at the battle of

\* Pars ea Powysiæ de quo cognomine adepta est.—*Pentarchia*.

<sup>f</sup> With respect to this fine Lordship, and in some short observations relative to North Wales, may I be allowed to quote myself in a paper I wrote a few years since on the subject. See Appendix.

Consylt,<sup>g</sup> on the English part. He had been offended with Owain Gwynedd, the reigning Prince of North Wales, who claimed his allegiance; yet was this in conformity with the rules of Roderic, by which the Princes of South Wales and Powys were under sovereignty to the North.<sup>h</sup>

Be this excused to him, his character was good beyond the examples of that time; for he was "one that feared God, and relieved the poor."<sup>i</sup> He resided  
A.D. 1160. frequently in England, died at Winchester, and was buried at Meifod, a church he rebuilt near Mathrafael, the seat of these Princes, on the reduction of Shrewsbury,<sup>k</sup> their ancient capital, by Offa in the eighth century.<sup>l</sup> He married Susannah, the daughter of Gruffudd

<sup>g</sup> In this Action near Flint, Henry de Essex, hereditary standard-bearer of England, threw away the flag, and fled crying aloud, "THE KING IS SLAIN." The English however rallied, and made an handsome retreat.

<sup>h</sup> The Princes of South Wales were to pay four tons of honey, and the Princes of Powys four tons of flour, to the Sovereigns of North Wales.

<sup>i</sup> Powel.

<sup>k</sup> Many of the fields and places near Shrewsbury (then called Pengwern) still retain their Welsh Names. It was once again in the hands of the Welsh, and taken by our great Llywelyn in 1215.

<sup>l</sup> Early in the following century, the able Egbert, who had united the Saxons under one kingdom, gained from us the city of Chester, with large maritime dependencies; and would have probably subdued North Wales,

ab Cynan, Prince of North Wales, and founder of our first Royal Tribe. By her he had three sons, and a daughter, Marred, the wife of Iorwerth Drwyn-dwnn,<sup>m</sup> and the mother of our great Llywelyn. Madog built the Castles of Oswestry, Caer Einion, and Overton, where he resided, and which received from him the additional name of Madog.

In the customs of his country, he continued to gavel his broken patrimony, and divided his moiety of Powys between his sons Gruffudd Maelor, Owain, Eliza, Brogyntyn, Cynfrig and Einion efell. The three last were illegitimate, but it was not unusual to put such, when eminent, in an equal succession; and it is observable, that four of the tribes of Israel were of Jacob's natural issue, but appointed to the same distinction with the rest.

Gruffudd Maelor succeeded as Lord of Bromfield,<sup>n</sup>

but was recalled by a Danish invasion. Egbert, during the reign of our Prince, Merfyn frŷch, had carried his arms into all parts of North Wales.

<sup>m</sup> Iorwerth Drwyn-dwnn, or Edward with the broken nose, the eldest son of Owain Gwynedd, was set aside the succession on account of this deformity.

<sup>n</sup> In Welsh Maelor, so called from Maelor ab Gwran ab Cunedda Wledig, to whose share this district fell, on the general division of North Wales, among the sons and grandsons of Cunedda in the sixth century

“a man wise and liberal;”<sup>o</sup> nor was he less brave, or less a friend to his country. He was valiantly engaged at the head of the men of Bromfield in the battle of Crogen<sup>p</sup> or Chirk, whence the second Henry, with considerable loss, made a difficult retreat, and was in imminent danger from an arrow, that had been critically aimed, but intercepted by Hubert de Clare, the Constable of Colchester, who stepped before him, and, at the price of his own life,<sup>q</sup> preserved that of his friend and master. Gruffudd died in 1191, and was buried at Meifod. By his wife Angharad,<sup>r</sup> the daughter

<sup>o</sup> Powel.

<sup>p</sup> It has been erroneously said, that the term Crogens was used in contempt and derision of the Welsh; but that was not the truth: the English meant to express by it animosity, and the desire of revenge. It alluded to this action, where Henry was worsted, and in great personal danger. Many of the English were slain, and buried in Offa's Dyke, below Chirk Castle; and the part so filled up is to be seen, and forms a passage over it, called to this day, Adwŷ'r Beddau, or the Pass of the Graves.

<sup>q</sup> Lord Lyttelton places this event at the siege of Bridgnorth; our histories state the fact as I have done.

<sup>r</sup> On account of consanguinity, she being his first cousin, Madog was divorced from her, on the persuasion of Archbishop Baldwyn, when he  
 A. D. 1187. visited North Wales. “At this time,” says Giraldus, “Dafydd ab Owain Gwynedd, the reigning Prince of North Wales, had no other part of the principality, save Rhuddlan Castle, and the adjacent territory, which he held with a garrison of English, and where Archbishop Baldwyn lodged one night to visit the King's\* sister Emma, the wife of

\* Henry the Second.

of our great Prince, Owain Gwynedd, he had one son, Madog, who inherited his estates entire. Him I find serving under John in two Welsh expeditions. From the first the King of England retreated with loss and disgrace; in the second he was successful, and reduced

Dafydd." A spirit of enmity generally existed between the people, as well as the Princes of South and North Wales. When Dafydd ab Owain Gwynedd, Prince of the North, had honorably received some fugitives from the South, his courtiers insisted that it was too much condescension in him to favor the subjects of a rival Prince, who would not shew the least respect to any of his. Dafydd upon hearing this swore a great oath, that he would not rest until he would be satisfied, whether the Lord Rhÿs of South Wales, would not honorably receive some messenger, sent by him to his Court. He was some time before he could meet with a person who would undertake the trial. At length Gwgan of Caer Einion in Powys land set off on the embassy; and arriving at Lord Rhÿs's Court found him in a furious temper, beating his servants and hanging his dogs. Gwgan knowing it was not a proper time to appear, delayed his message until the following day; and then in a long speech, still extant in MS. he let the noble descendant of Rhÿs ab Tewdwr mawr know, that he came from Dafydd ab Owain of North Wales, of the stock of royal Cynan, to pay his friendly respects to him; and if he was well received, he had commission from his Prince to thank the Lord Rhÿs; if not, he had commission to act on the reverse. The Lord Rhÿs asked Gwgan, in what could his honorable reception exist. Gwgan answered, in giving me a horse better than my own to carry me home; in giving me five pounds in money, and a suit of clothes; in giving my servant who leads my horse by the bridle, a suit of clothes and one pound. Come in said the Lord Rhÿs, I will give thee the noblest steed in my stud, for the sake of thy royal master; and above thy demand, I will double the sums, and treble the suits of apparel. Which promise was performed, and Gwgan returned to the mutual satisfaction of both Princes.

Llywelyn of North Wales, his son-in-law, to hard conditions; who submitted to pay the charges of the war, to do homage for his dominions, and, in favor of his revolted feudatory Madog, to renounce for ever the paramountship of Powys.

A. D.

1212.

The year following Llywelyn and Madog were reconciled, and uniting their force they took all the English garrisons in North Wales, excepting Rhuddlan and Degangwy, and these fell after; and corrupting the third Innocent, a venal Pope, he dispensed with their oaths of allegiance taken to John, then under an interdict,<sup>s</sup> and a Nuncio was sent into Wales for this purpose. "They were moreover put under the pains of cursing, if they failed to annoy and trouble him to the utmost of their power."<sup>t</sup> John returned with an army to Powys, and had gained some ground, and demolished the Castle of Mathrafael, which was not restored, when he was recalled by the revolt of his English Barons.

A. D.

1215.

The last service, in which I find Madog, was in South Wales, in concert with our great Llywelyn,

<sup>s</sup> This assumption of the Court of Rome was first practised in England against Stephen.

<sup>t</sup> Powel.

when they reduced and ruined many of the English Castles; and returned home with a large booty, no light object in the warfare of those times. He built <sup>A. D. 1200.</sup> the Cistertian Abbey of Llanegwest, of the Cross, or de Valle Crucis, one of the last founded and first dissolved; and was buried in the church of his own Monastery. <sup>A. D. 1236.</sup> By his wife Gwladys, the daughter of Ithel ab Rhÿs ab Morgan of Ewias, ab Morgan hîr, ab Iestyn ab Gwrgant, the fourth Royal Tribe, he had one son Gruffudd, who had the fortune to inherit his estates entire.

The great interests, with the good abilities of this Lord, rendered him considerable, and he took an active share in these turbulent times. He was strictly attached to Henry the Third, whom he pressed into North Wales, and joined there, to effect the release<sup>u</sup> of Gruffudd ab Llywelyn, who was kept in close prison by his brother Dafydd, the reigning Prince.

<sup>u</sup> This was accomplished; but the unfortunate Gruffudd, being delivered to Henry, did but change his confinement from the Castle of Cruccaith, to the Tower of London; whence attempting his escape he perished by a fall from the ramparts. On this event, Henry the Third declared his son Edward, Prince of Wales, in preference to his nephew Dafydd, the reigning monarch. And it is observable, that Edward never departed from this claim, since after his conquest in 1282, he annexed to himself, by the statute of Rhuddlan, only "Terram de Snowdon," holding the rest of the country, as his own, and declares Llywelyn not an enemy but a traitor.

In the succeeding reign of Llywelyn, the son of Gruffudd, he engaged himself with equal attachment to the Prince of England, Edward, who possessed the Earldom of Chester, with large maritime Welsh dependencies. He assisted him (but without effect) in his first attempts on our country, for Edward was driven back<sup>w</sup> by Llywelyn, co-operating with the rebel force of Montford;<sup>x</sup> of both he took ample revenge<sup>y</sup> afterwards.<sup>z</sup>

A. D. 1246. <sup>w</sup> Of one of these Welsh expeditions,\* in his father Henry's time, there is a letter preserved by Matthew Paris, from a soldier of fashion, describing the distresses of the English army in very spirited terms. "We lie here" says he "watching, praying, fasting, and freezing; we watch for fear of the Welsh, who beat up our quarters every night; we pray for a safe passage homeward; we fast, for hardly have we any food, the halfpenny loaf being raised to five pence; and we freeze for want of warm clothing, and having only a linen tent to keep out the cold."

A. D. 1264. <sup>x</sup> Llywelyn had a conference at Hawarden Castle, with Montford, where they established peace between Cheshire and Wales, in order to promote their several and respective designs; and on June the twenty-second in the year following, Montford obliged his captive, the English monarch, to make an absolute cession to the Welsh Prince, not only of this fortress, but of the sovereignty of Wales, and the homage of it's Barons, heretofore paid to Henry; and in the treaty of Montgomery, it was agreed between Henry and Llywelyn, that the Dee should be the boundary from Wirrall in Cheshire, to Holt in Denbighshire, and thence in a direct line to Pengwern, or Shrewsbury.

<sup>y</sup> At Evesham and Buellt.

<sup>z</sup> "On the occasion of the conquest, and the death of Llywelyn, two-

\* Apud Gannoe, i. e. Diganwy.

Bromfield was laid waste to punish Gruffudd, and Powys fell to the victor; who on his submission restored him to his estates. He died in his Castle of <sup>A. D.</sup> 1270. Dinas Brân,<sup>a</sup> and was buried with his father in the neighbouring Abbey of Llanegwest.<sup>b</sup> By his wife Emma, the sister of James, Lord Audley, an English captain, terrible to the Welsh, with his German cavalry, which they destroyed afterwards, he had four sons; to Madog the elder, he gave the Lordships of Bromfield and Iâl,

ecclesiastical poets," says Knighton, "one a Welshman, the other an Englishman, wrote as follows."

WALLENSIS,

*"Hic jacet Anglorum tortor, tutor Venedorum,  
Princeps Wallorum Leolinus, regula morum,  
Gemma coævorum, flos regum præteritorum,  
Forma futurorum; dux, laus, lex, lux populorum."*

ANGLICUS SIC,

*"Hic jacet errorum princeps, et prædo virorum,  
Proditor Anglorum, fax lucida, secta reorum,  
Numen Wallorum, trux dux, homicida piorum,  
Fæx Trojanorum, stirps mendax, causa malorum."*

<sup>a</sup> Regibus Anglorum fuit hic Griffinus amicus,  
Aversatus herum Leolinum, cujus ob iram  
Se bene munitum Castello semper in illo  
Continuit latitans, nomen locus indidit inde;  
Orbati teneris nati linquuntur in annis.—*Pentarchia.*

<sup>b</sup> This is the last event related in the British copy of our History; what remains to the conquest of Wales, by Edward the First, was added by Humphrey Llwyd.

with the reversion of Moldsdale, Hopesdale, and Maelor Saesneg,<sup>c</sup> his mother's jointure, and so called from her nation; to Llywelyn the Second, the Lordships of Chirk and Nantheudwy; the Third son Gruffudd, had Glyn-dyfrdwy, but from the interests and remorse of Earl Warren only, who obtained for him from Edward this lot of his inheritance, and the grant which conveys it is dated from Rhuddlan, the tenth of his reign. He held this Lordship under the King of England in chieftly, and was called by the Welsh, y Barwn gwynn, the white Baron. He was father to Madog grupl, or the cripple, the great great grandfather to Owain Glyndŵr, who succeeded lineally to these estates. The fourth son Owain was intended for the church, but died a natural death in his youth, and his portion of Cynllaeth Owain, came to his brother Gruffudd who survived him, and so in descent to Glyndŵr, and was forfeited to Henry the Fourth.

From this disposition of Powys Fadog, will be missed the Cwmmwds<sup>d</sup> of Dinmael, Edeyrnion, Merffordd, Croes Oswallt, Mocknant is Rhaiadr, and the Lordship

<sup>c</sup> Maelor Saesneg, i. e. Saxon or English Maelor, the detached part of Flintshire.

<sup>d</sup> Commot or Cwmmwd, was the third of a Cantref, which contained fifty townships. From Cwmmwd we derive Cymmydog, a neighbour.

of Whittington. To two of his legitimate children, Owain and Elisa, <sup>Madog ab Maredudd</sup> ~~he~~ had given Mechain is Coed, in the upper Powys, and lands in the neighbourhood of Chirk Castle. Dinmael and Edeyrnion had been parcelled off by <sup>him</sup> ~~Madog~~ <sup>Madog</sup> ~~ab Maredudd~~ to his natural son Owain Brogyntyn. He had portioned upon Powys Fadog, two other of his natural sons, Cynrig and Einion efell;† the first was stiled Lord of Eglwys Egle, held lands in Moldsdale and the township of Treuddyn; Einion was Lord of Cynllaeth, had Croes Oswallt or Oswestry, where his father had built a Castle, and the Lordship of Whittington. The Cwmmwd of Merfford had been given by Bleddyn ab Cynfyn, in reward of military services, to his cousin Gwernwy, the father of Eunydd the Tribe.

The relations and friends of the family contended

\* Our histories do not notice another son of Madog ab Maredudd, Llywelyn. He probably died before his father, and before the division of his estates among his surviving sons; he is however celebrated by Cynddelw, our british Homer, in several Poems: in one he thanks him for a stag which his hounds had killed by Cynddelw's door; in another he enumerates the several battles fought by Madog ab Maredudd, his father; at last the Bard deplores the fall of Llywelyn, saying his house on the banks of the Dee was left desolate.

† Efell signifies twins, from the Latin Gemelli, the Latin M being always expressed in Welsh by the letter F.

with Emma for the direction of the children; sensible, should they be brought up by their mother, their affections must be lost to their country. She had the custody of the two elder, but keeping with difficulty the possession of them, and of the lands of her Welsh jointure, threw both to the care of Edward, alledging that their ancestors had sworn allegiance to the Kings of England, and they were feudally in his wardship. The King accordingly took the children, and committed the charge of them and their estates, Madog the elder to John Earl Warren, and Llywelyn to Roger Mortimer, who strengthened their trusts with two strong Castles; Chirk, built by Mortimer, and Holt,<sup>g</sup> by Warren; and as might happen, the wards were missed and no more found.

..... *Tali curantes arte pūpillos,<sup>h</sup>  
Rursus ut ad patrios nunquam rediere penates.*

<sup>g</sup> This Roger was more than once justice of North Wales; was the second son of Roger, Lord Mortimer of Wigmore, and uncle to Roger the Minister, Earl of Marche. He was summoned to parliament, as Lord Mortimer of Chirk, by Edward the Second, and was one of the Lords, who gave sentence of banishment against the two Spencers; for which his nephew and himself were imprisoned in the Tower; and where it is said this Roger died.

<sup>h</sup> Ednop, like the French writers of Latin verses of that time (James the First) has no regard to quantity. The Frenchmen professed it: *Nos Gallici non cūrāmūs quantitatē syllābārūm.*

Tradition says they were drowned in the night, in the Dee, at Holt. They perished no doubt by some secret and violent death, at the hands of their Guardians, who by the grants of Edward succeeded generally to their estates. But it is observable, the King took a part in the spoil, but he might not share in their destruction; for in his grant to Warren, the Castle<sup>i</sup> and Demesnes of Hope are reserved to himself; and he had given Emma a temporary composition in land for her jointure of Maelor Saesneg, which on her death should have reverted to her family, but which Edward kept and annexed to Flintshire,<sup>k</sup> under pretence that the heirs were rebels. And here seems set in violence, ingratitude, and a cruel breach of trust, a wretched instance and example, dreadfully copied afterward in the persons of two of his descendants, Richard

<sup>i</sup> In this Castle of Hope, commonly called Caergwrle, Edward the First and his Queen Eleanor, lodged on their journey to Carnarvon, and whilst they were there the Castle was by some accident set on fire, and burnt. The little village of Hope, (in Welsh Estyn) is called Queen Hope, from Eleanor's visit.

<sup>k</sup> The four ancient North Welsh counties were Anglesey, Carnarvon, Merioneth and Flint. In South Wales Glamorgan and Pembroke were made Shires so early as Henry the First, on his importation of Flemish, and the common Law of England planted in them.

of York, and the Fifth Edward, both as to their lives and fortune.<sup>1</sup>

Thus ended the Madocian line of the Powysian Princes: that rag of Powys, which descended to Glyn-dŵr, was in point of power manerial matters only. Glyndyfrdwy is at present the possession of Edward Williames Vaughan Salesbury Esquire, second son of the late Sir Robert Howel Vaughan, of Nannau, and had been forfeited in Glyndŵr's rebellion, and sold by Henry the Fourth to a second son of the Salesburys of Bachymbyd, a younger branch of Llyweni. Through the Salesburys, the Pughes of Mathafarn,<sup>m</sup> and the Prices of Gogerddan, it rests in Mr. Salesbury.

I come next to Powys Wenwynwyn, the other division. Bleddyn had gavelled Powys between his

<sup>1</sup> Nescia mens hominum fati sortisque futuræ,  
Et servare modum, rebus sublata secundis !  
Turno tempus erit, magno cum optaverit emptum  
Intactum Pallanta; et cum spolia ista diemque  
Oderit. . . . .

<sup>m</sup> Dafydd ab Llwyd ab Llywelyn ab Gruffudd, Lord of Mathafarn, wrote in verse the Legend of Tydecho, one of our most capital Saints. This illustrious Bard had a great hand also in bringing in Henry the Seventh, by feeding his countrymen with prophecies, that one of them was to deliver Wales from the English yoke; by which many thousands were induced to rise under Sir Rhŷs ab Thomas, and join Henry at Milford.

sons, Maredudd, and Cadwgan. It reunited in Maredudd, who accumulated the whole by the family slaughter of that period. He divided it again between his son Madog, whence the Fadog division, and his grandson Owain Cyfeiliog,<sup>n</sup> whose son Gwenwynwyn gave name to this moiety. Gruffudd the second son of Maredudd died before his father. He had submitted with him to Henry the First, and was called by this Prince to his baronial Parliaments. I find nothing more interesting respecting him, but he took his share in the family feuds and fightings of that season. He married Gwerfyl, daughter to Gwrgenau ab Hywel ab Jeuaf ab Cadwgan ab Elystan Glodrudd, the founder of our fifth Royal Tribe, and died in 1128. His son Cyfeiliog, who enjoyed his estates entire, was a man of more eminence, and a busier actor in the constant contentions of that restless time. He bore an honorable share in the battle of Crogen, from which the second Henry retreated with considerable loss and personal danger. In 1176 he attended the summons of Henry, to meet him at Oxford, and to confer with him on Welsh affairs.

<sup>n</sup> His surname, Cyfeiliog, he took from a district so called in Montgomeryshire, containing five parishes. The ruins of his Castle are still seen at Tafolwern in Cyfeiliog.

I next find him in a business of family pillage, in which he plundered Iorwerth gôch, his father's half-brother, of his estates in Powys. This drew upon him the justice of Owain Gwynedd, Prince of North Wales, and of Rhys ab Gruffudd, of the South; and together they drove him from his country, which with the assistance of the English he recovered in part; but was reduced by Rhys after the death of Owain, and again restored on proper concessions. He married Gwenllïan, the daughter of Owain Gwynedd; by her he had one son, Gwenwynwyn, who inherited his estates entire, excepting the Cwmmwds of Lannerch hudol and Broniarth, which his father had parcelled off in favor of his natural son, Caswallon. Cyfeiliog founded the Cistertian Abbey of Ustrad Marchell,<sup>o</sup> and died a very aged man in 1197. He was a distinguished Bard<sup>p</sup>

<sup>o</sup> Virginis et nitidum Marcellæ struxit Asylum.—*Pentarchia*.

<sup>p</sup> Mr. Andrews has well observed, that the tale of Edward the First's cruelty to the Bards, in the next century, has no foundation, but an obscure tradition, and a hint in the Gwydir history. Edward hath been also accused of having destroyed all the ancient records and writings in Scotland. This is ably refuted by Sir David Dalrymple. But an order at that time subsisted to silence the Welsh Bards. Our countrymen were more severely treated by the Fourth Henry, when the Welsh were rendered by an act of Parliament incapable of purchasing lands, or of performing any office in any town, or of having any Castle or house of defence. English Judges and Jurics were to decide disputes between English and Welsh:

also, as what he left<sup>a</sup> may testify; and in our Augustan<sup>r</sup> age of Welsh poetry. The Saxons, at least for some time, were no poets; they landed here, without an

Englishmen that married Welshwomen\* were disfranchised, and no Welshman might bind his child to any trade, nor breed him up to literature. The absurdities of these ordinances counteracted their virulence; and the moderation of the Fifth Henry having laid them to sleep; if not repealed, they were at least forgotten.

<sup>a</sup> His poem, called *HIRLAS OWAIN*, (finely translated into English verse by the Reverend Mr. Williams of Fron,) affords a specimen of his martial spirit, as well as of his poetic talents.

<sup>r</sup> Poetry and good language was in greater perfection in Wales, a little before and a little after the Norman Conquest, than it hath been since; and the historical part of our Poems is a great light to Historians, both English and Welsh, Irish and Scotch. Goronwy Owain on this subject says, "I find the old metres were, what all compositions of that nature should be, that is, Lyric verses adapted to the tunes and music then in use. Of this sort were the several kinds of Englynion, Cywyddau, Odlau, Gwawdodyn; Toddaid, Trybedd y Myneich and Glogyrnach, which appear to have in their composition the authentic stamp of genuine Lyric poetry, and of true primitive antiquity. As to the rest, I mean Gorchest y Beirdd, Huppynt hîr and byrr, being the newest, they were falsely thought the most ingenious and accurate kind of metres. But I look upon them to be rather depravations than improvements in our poetry. What a groveling, low thing that Gorchest y Beirdd is? And I would have an impartial answer, whether the old, despised; exterminated Englyn Milwr hath not something of antique majesty in its composition. Now, when I have a mind to write good sense in such a metre as Gorchest y Beirdd, and so begin, and the language itself does not afford words that will come in to finish with sense and

\* Henry no doubt was jealous of the charms of our countrywomen, and fearful of their influence on his English subjects.

alphabet. The Normans had their Jongleurs,<sup>s</sup> Troubadours, and Provencial songs, the Monks jingled their Latin doggrel; but until the days of Gower, Chaucer and Lydgate, native English numbers were in a manner unknown;<sup>t</sup> the scholar since hath excelled his master;

Cynghanedd too, what must I do? Why, to keep Cynghanedd (i. e. the alliteration) I must write nonsense to the end of the metre, and cramp and fetter good sense; whilst the dictionary is overturned and tormented to find out words of a like ending, sense or nonsense; and besides, suppose our language was more comprehensive and significant than it is, (which we have no reason or room to wish) what abundance of mysterious sense is such an horrid, jingling metre of such a length able to contain! In short as I understand that it and its fellows were introduced by the authority of an Eisteddfodd, I wish we had an Eisteddfod again, to give them their dimittimus to some peaceable acrostick land, to sport and converse with the spirits of deceased Puns, Quibbles, and Conundrums of pious memory; then would I gladly see the true primitive metres reinstated in their ancient dignity, and sense regarded more than a hideous jingle of words, which hardly ever bear it."

The Welsh poetry had great compass and variety. Dr. John David Rhŷs the physician and grammarian, who took his degree in Italy, introduces a comparison between the Welsh and Italian poetry, and inserts a whole Italian poem, marked in the manner he has done the Welsh. In Metastasio is a poem similar to a very favorite measure in Welsh poetry; viz.

*Sopra il santissimo. Natale Ode, Vol. 9.*

In this, the end of the first line rhimes to the middle of the second, and the end of the second to the middle of the third.

<sup>s</sup> This species of Minstrels ended in the conjuring art; hence our Jugglers.

<sup>t</sup> We must not wonder, if the English verse in those early centuries appear uncouth. The bard had to do with a harsh, though nervous language,

*Nosque ubi primus equis Oriens afflavit anhelis,  
Illic sera rubens accendit lumina Vesper.*

The Britons had taught the Saxons to read, and given them the first of all things in Christianity itself, which they spread and adorned with ten Cathedrals.

frowned on by the Court, neglected by the Gentry, and disguised by a most unintelligible mode of spelling.—*J. P. A.*

The son of Owain Gwynedd, Hywel, (who fell in the contention for his father's throne) brother to Madog the navigator, hath written his own battles in verse, and some love verses in a most elegant manner, of which we have several copies in Wales. Our Princes and chieftains continued this custom of writing their own actions, as late as Henry the Second's time, the age of Hywel. Poetry was so sacred with these people, that they never suffered invented fables, the chief ingredient in heroic poetry, to have a footing in it, which is the reason that neither the Gauls, Britons, Irish, Picts, Cornish or Armoricans, ever had to this day a poem in the nature of the Iliad or Eneid. "Poetry," says Mr. Morris, "hath been with us the sacred repository of the actions of great men; and it hath been so, from the most ancient times, in other nations; as the song of Moses, among the Jews, of the defeat of the Egyptians. Taliessin's historical poem of the Tombs of the Warriors of Britain is a noble piece of antiquity, and strikes great light on the events of those times, when compared with the Triades, the Brut y Brenhinoedd, and the succeeding writers. The book of Triades, in British Trioedd Ynys Prydain, or the Threes of the Island of Britain, seems to have been written about the year 650, and some parts of it collected out of the most ancient monuments of the kingdom, but not from the same fountain as Brut y Brenhinoedd; as there are facts and matters in the Triades not to be found in the Brut, and also several things which the author of the Brut never would have omitted, if he had met with them.

Gwenwynwyn began early the career of his family; and in the life of his father, with his base brother Caswallon, he made a predatory excursion by night, and took and plundered the Castle of Carreg Hwfa,<sup>u</sup> and put to death their Welsh uncle, their father's first cousin, Owain ab Madog, then an old man, whom they found in it.

His next exploit had a better aspect. He recovered his Castle of Powys,<sup>w</sup> on the terms he had lost it,

The Triades hath always been quoted by our British poets from age to age, though Geoffrey of Monmouth, the Latin translator of Tyssillio, never saw it, or else he would have embellished his translation with its contents, instead of the ridiculous things which he hath added to it from Myrddyn Emrys, and oral tradition." It is called by some writers, and by the translator of Camden, the Book of Triplicities. The Britons, as well as other nations of old, had a particular veneration for odd numbers, and especially for that of Three. Their most ancient poetry consists of Three lined stanzas, called Englyn Milwr, the Warrior's Verse. Their most remote history is divided into sections, being combinations of some Three similar events. All men of note, whether famous or infamous, were classed together by Threes; Virtues and Vices were tripled together in the same manner; and the Druids conveyed their instructions in moral and natural philosophy to their people, in sentences of Three parts.

<sup>u</sup> The Castle of Carreg Hwfa was taken and despoiled by the two cousin-germans, Owain Cyfeiliog and Owain ab Madog, in the year 1162; which latter kept possession of it twenty-five years, when he was besieged in it, and slain in the night by Gwenwynwyn and Caswallon, sons of Owain Cyfeiliog, his former colleague in plunder and devastation.

from Archbishop Hubert of Canterbury, who commanded the armies of Richard the First against the Welsh, and held the administration in England, whilst that Prince was absent in Palestine.\* He next assisted the wicked<sup>y</sup> Maelgwn to surprize and imprison his brother Gruffudd, Lord of South Wales; and his person being delivered to Gwenwynwyn, he gave him up to the English. Two years after he conceived a great <sup>A. D.</sup> 1198. design; the liberty and extension of his country to its ancient limits. With views so popular he raised a large army, and besieged William de Breos in his Castle of Payn in Radnor. He lay three weeks without effect before it, whilst Breos had time to collect assistance, and was reinforced by the Justiciary of England, Jeffrey Fitzpeter,<sup>z</sup> who had released the

" . . . . . Gwenwynwyn sanguinis hæres,  
Ante obitum patris, totam subjecit Arustli;  
Inde Polæ Castrum, quod vi possederat Anglus,  
Conditione pari, quâ perdidit ante, recepit.—*Pentarchia*.

\* Richard was but eight months in England, during a reign of ten years.

<sup>y</sup> Powel gives him another character; but I look to his actions, as I find them related.

<sup>z</sup> Fitzpeter was an eminent character. He was dreaded by John, who yet dared not to remove him from his great office. When John heard of his death, he exultingly cried, "And is he gone then? Well, let him go to

Lord of South Wales, his prisoner, and put him at the head of his countrymen, who joined him in great numbers. Gwenwynwyn engaged the whole, and in the open plain near the Castle, and was defeated.

A. D.  
1202. Yet unsubdued, he refused allegiance to his sovereign Llywelyn, but was again reconciled, and took the same oaths of fidelity to him, as he had before done to the King of England; from the last, he had been discharged by a dispensation from Rome. And here it should seem he had some hardship; he was detained a prisoner at Shrewsbury, whither he went to consult the English Council; and however an offence this to his own Prince, who seized his country, it was an ungrateful return from England. He was restored to his liberty by John, three years after; by whose assistance he recovered his possessions; and he attended him in an unsuccessful expedition into Wales the year following.

The next year he is in arms on the part of Llywelyn, and with other great men of Wales, they drove John with disgrace from the country. He kept his faith but five years; deserted once more to John,

hell, and join Archbishop Hubert. By God's foot I am now for the first time King of England.—*Matthew Paris.*

was pursued by Llywelyn, his country taken, and himself driven within the walls of Chester. Reviewing his character, little good is to be found in it; but he was a man of spirit in the field. He had moreover, in a religious sense, improved his father's foundation of Ustrad Marchell. By his wife Margaret, daughter of the Lord Rhÿs of South Wales, he left one son Gruffudd.<sup>a</sup>

Him I find, with other leading men of Wales, soliciting the third Henry to release Gruffudd, the brother A. D.  
1241.

<sup>a</sup> Before I part with Gwenwynwyn, let me relate from Giraldus an incident which passed between his father Cyfeiliog and our Henry the Second. A. D.  
1188. "We had excommunicated," says the historian, "Owain Cyfeiliog, because he was the only one of the Princes, that had not paid proper respect in person to us. This Owain was the most eloquent of all the Welsh, and governed his part of the country with great prudence. He had contracted an intimate friendship with Henry, and sided with him generally against his countrymen. In consequence of this, some time after, sitting at table with the King at Shrewsbury, Henry handed him a piece of his bread, as a mark of his Royal favor. Owain immediately cut it into pieces, as it were eleemosynary bread, or that which is given among different people; and then removing it at some distance from him, and again bringing it nearer to him, he ate each piece separately. Upon the King desiring to know the reason of this, Owain with a feigned smile replied, "I show my master by this manner of breaking the bread, how he ought to conduct himself in ecclesiastical matters;" alluding to the King's keeping in his own hands the vacant preferments longer than he ought to have done, and not distributing them among the persons proper to take the care of them.

of Dafydd, the reigning Prince; an event already related. Two years after he was restored to his estates (forfeited to Dafydd) by Henry, who exercised this power as Sovereign of Wales, and to whom Dafydd had made his entire submission. He steadily for a time adhered to the English, and was alone among his countrymen in that particular, refusing to join Dafydd; again he returned to his allegiance, during the life of that Prince.

I find him next in exile, and his estates confiscated by the succeeding Prince, Llywelyn; but again he temporized, and again joined his Welsh Sovereign; and as the test of his sincerity, he took and demolished the Castle of Mold,<sup>b</sup> a frontier English garrison. He must have still changed, for it is matter of complaint,<sup>c</sup> on the part of Llywelyn, that Edward the first had received and protected his rebel subject Gruffudd ab

<sup>b</sup> Mold in Welsh is called Wydhgrig, conspicuous.

<sup>c</sup> Many causes of animosity subsisted between Edward, Llywelyn, and the Welsh, previous to the final rupture. In the year 1277, the Barons of Snowdon, with other Noblemen of Wales, had attended Llywelyn to London, when he came thither at Christmas to do homage to Edward, for the four Cantreds of Rhôs, Rhyfoniog, Tegengl, and Dyffryn Clwyd; and bringing, according to their usual custom, large retinues with them, were quartered at Islington, and the neighbouring villages. These places did not afford milk for such numerous trains; they liked neither the wine nor

Gwenwynwyn. He married Margaret the daughter of Hywel y Pedolau,<sup>d</sup> and had six sons, among whom his lands were divided. To Owain<sup>e</sup> the eldest were

the ale of London; and though plentifully entertained, were much displeased at the new manner of living, which did not suit with their taste: they slighted the English bread, and their pride too was disgusted by the perpetual staring of the Londoners, who followed them in crowds to gaze at their uncommon garb. "No," cried the indignant Britons, "we never again will visit Islington, except as conquerors;" and from that instant they resolved to take up arms.—*Carte from a MS. in the Mostyn collection.*

<sup>d</sup> Sir Hywel y Pedolau was son of Gruffudd ab Iorwerth ab Maredudd ab Mathusalem ab Hwfa ab Cynddelw, one of the Fifteen Tribes contemporary with Owain Gwynedd. Sir Hywel was so strong a man, that he could, it is said, straighten horseshoes with his hands; whence his name y Pedolau, i. e. of the horseshoes. His mother was King Edward the Second's nurse; and he being a foster-brother to the King was in great favor, and was knighted by him. And here I am led to doubt the policy of Edward the First in making his second son Edward a Welshman, and bringing his Queen for that purpose to lie in at Carnarvon, his elder son Alphonsus being then alive; and since the union of England and Wales was a great object, and for which eventually we are much obliged to him,\* it seemed to be made more difficult by this measure, as the Welsh might not have easily resigned their countryman and adopted King.

<sup>e</sup> Owain ab Gruffudd ab Gwenwynwyn was summoned to a parliament at Shrewsbury, where he acknowledged his lands to be held under the Crown of England in capite, under the tenure of free Baronage, and resigned to the King and his heirs the sovereignty of Powys. Rhÿs of South

\* "I confess," says Vaughan of Hengwrt, "we have reason to bless God for his mercy to us in our happy establishment under one Monarch. We may well say we were conquered to our gain, and undone to our advantage."—*Periissemus, nisi perissemus.*

given the Cwmmwds of Arustli, Cyfeiliog, Llannerch hudol, and the half of Caer Einion; Llywarch the second, had Mochnant uchaf, and Mechain uwch coed; John the fourth part of Caer Einion; William or Wilcock, as the Welsh call him, Mowddwy; Gruffudd Fychan had Deuddwr, Ustrad Marchell, and the Tairtref, or three towns on the borders, which came to the family by the marriage of their great great grandfather, Gruffudd ab Maredudd, with the heiress of the house of Elystan Glodrudd; Dafydd the Sixth and youngest had the remaining fourth of Caer Einion. Owain married Hawys, the daughter of Philip Corbert, Baron of Caus, and by her had an only daughter, Hawys gadarn, or the hardy. Her uncles (Wilcock excepted, whence was saved to his descendants this lot of his inheritance, and the lordship of Mowddwy is to this day, through the De Burghs, in his heirs general, the Myttons of Halstone) contend by the gafel, that she could not as a female inherit her father's land; forgetful that from such Powys was first derived to their family; and her uncle John raised a force to support his claims, and besieged his niece and her husband in the Castle of Pool. They were relieved by Roger, the Minister Earl of

Wales had done the same at an earlier period. The Sovereigns of North Wales preserved their title of Princes till 1282, on the death of the last Llywelyn. The kingly title ended with Gruffudd ab Cynan.

Marche,<sup>f</sup> and for this service Mortimer had grants from them in Powys. The cause was then taken before Edward the Second, the feudal Judge of the controversy, and whilst yet before him, he seized and imprisoned the uncles in the Castle of Harlech. They

<sup>f</sup> There were twenty one Lords Marchers, of whom this powerful Peer, with the title of Earl of Marche, was one. They sat among the English Lords, and had the titles of those places they had won from the Welsh. They had originally regal jurisdiction in their several Baronies, where the King's writs did not run. This was intended as a strength against the neighbouring enemy; but Edward the First, in his statute of Rhuddlan, withdrew this power, for he was able of himself to rule our countrymen. None were erected after that period: they held of the King immediately, that is, in Capite, and were accordingly bound to him in personal suit and service, and to find him a certain number of soldiers. In the third of Edward the Second, for the Scotch war I find the Barony of Powys to send four hundred; Rhôs and Rhyfoniog, that is, Denbigh, two hundred; Ruthin two hundred; Dyffryn Clwyd, one hundred; Nantheudwy and Glyndyfrdwy, two hundred; Bromfield and Iâl, two hundred; numbers exceeding the present Militia proportions.\* Henry the Eighth finally reduced their broken power. Many of these Baronies had fallen to the Crown from purchase, inheritance, or forfeiture. He resumed all or most of the jurisdictions that were left, and deprived the Marchers of the same, leaving them in effect but as Lords of Manors in England. He then ordained Justices † of Assize himself, and Justices of the Peace, Sheriffs, and other Officers; and divided the country more correctly into counties; and erected Great

\* I believe there is little doubt, from these comparative proportions, that North Wales had considerably more inhabitants than it hath at present, many, as in these times, being necessarily drawn off by trade, and other engagements.

† Henry the Eighth gave us but four Judges to the whole principality; the Puisnes were added by Elizabeth. Only eight Justices of the Peace were allowed to each Shire by Henry, who formed the new Counties of Monmouth, Denbigh, Montgomery, Brecknock and Radnor.

had lost their Court patron, Thomas Earl of Lancaster,<sup>s</sup> then without favor and soon without his head, at Pomfret. The King decided that her issue, whether male or female, should inherit her estates, and if her uncles who litigated left no male issue, their lands should accumulate to her also; and this was afterwards the case. Moreover he gave her an husband in Sir John Charleton, a gentleman of his chamber,<sup>h</sup> who was summoned by writ<sup>i</sup> to Parliament in the seventh year of this King, as Lord Powys; whence a Barony in fee was created, descendable to his heirs general. And here I get within the land of dates; land seldom to be found in the *latitudes* of Welsh genealogy, where such things were usually forgotten. This first Lord of an English

Sessions and other Courts for its government, by Officers of his own, and according to the Laws of England, and left little or no authority to the Lords Marchers. The former policy, and presents of the Kings of England to their Nobles, had continued from the Norman Conquest until Edward the First; insomuch that at that time Wales was almost come into the possession of divers English Lords, who held the same of the Kings of England, and not of the Princes of Wales.

<sup>s</sup> Lancaster possessed the Lordship of Denbigh in virtue of his marriage with the heiress of the Lacys.

<sup>h</sup> Valectus Regis. Hence Valet,

<sup>i</sup> There was no representation in the Commons-house from Cheshire or Wales till the Welsh incorporating acts of Henry the Eighth.

house, (Appley in Shropshire,) the son of Sir Alan Charleton, was a man of civil and military talents, had attended his Sovereign, moreover as his Chamberlain, in his frequent and unfortunate northern expeditions. He followed for a time then the reforming factions of Lancaster, the refuge and receptacle of all that were distressed and discontented; was defeated, and taken with them at Boroughbridge, but escaped the proscriptions which ensued; came again into favor, and suffered in the insurrection against the King, when his house was pillaged by the London mob. I find him next in early employments and in great consideration with Edward the Third, who sent him on his service to Brabant, and afterwards to Ireland, as Justice or Chief Governor; and he took with him thither his brother Thomas, Bishop of Hereford, as Chancellor of that kingdom. Our old books speak of him in high esteem for his fidelity, prudence, and valour; nor amidst his greater employments had he neglected the interests and accommodation of his countrymen; and he obtained from Edward the Second two weekly markets at Pool and Machynlleth, and two fairs in the year at each place.<sup>k</sup> A. D. 1353.  
He died at the age of eighty-five; his wife, the Powys

<sup>k</sup> . . . . . Clarum et venerabile nomen

Gentibus, et nostræ multum quod profuit urbi.—*Lucan.*

heiress, some time before him; and as I learn from Dugdale and John Salisbury of Erbistock, she lies buried in the dissolved house of the grey Friars of her own foundation at Shrewsbury. John their son, who succeeded, was summoned to Parliament, from the twenty-eighth to the forty-seventh of Edward the Third; was Chamberlain of the household to this King, as his father had been to his predecessor; attended him in that useless and expensive expedition to France in 1339, as he did his son the Black Prince, in the same kingdom, and to the same effect, in 1370. He died in 1375, leaving by his wife Joan, daughter of Ralph, Earl of Stafford,<sup>1</sup> John his son, then under age, and a

<sup>1</sup> Ralph Bagot, Lord Stafford, a great soldier and one of the founders of the Garter, was created Earl of Stafford in the twenty-fifth of Edward the Third, and died in the forty-sixth of that reign. He was the son of Edmund, Lord Stafford, who died in the second of Edward the Second, the son of Nicholas, who was killed by the fall of Droselan Castle, which he had undermined, and was besieging in Wales, in the tenth of Edward the First. He was the younger brother of Henry, who died without issue, the two sons of Henry Lord Stafford, who first relinquished his paternal name of Bagot, and assumed his mother's name of Stafford. His father, Harvey Bagot, was a collateral ancestor and a younger brother of Lord Bagot's house; and marrying Millicent, the daughter and heiress of the Staffords, possessed in her right the title and estate of that great family. To return to Ralph, the first Earl. He left issue, Hugh, his son and heir, who died in the ninth of Richard the Second, leaving issue, Thomas. Thomas died without issue, the sixteenth of that reign, having married Anne, daughter and heiress of Thomas of Woodstock, Duke of Gloucester, murdered at



HUMPHREY STAFFORD OR BAGOT.

*Duke of Buckingham.  
From a Picture at Blithfield.*

*Published Aug. 1<sup>st</sup> 1798. by Philip Yorke Esq. Wrexham.*



younger son Edward. John was Justice of North Wales, had summons to Parliament from the sixth of Richard the Second to the third of Henry the Fourth,

Calais; but on account of their tender age, they never lived together. He was succeeded by his brother William, who dying unmarried four years after was succeeded by his brother Edmund, who married this Anne, the widow, if so she might be called, of his elder brother Thomas; and fell, on the part of Henry the Fourth, in the battle of Shrewsbury, leaving by her Humphrey his son and heir, then very young. In him were concentrated the great Earldoms of Buckingham, Hereford, Stafford, Northampton and Perche. He was also Lord of Brecknock, Caus and Holderness, and in the twenty-third of Henry the Sixth was advanced to the Dukedom of Buckingham. He fell in the battle of Northampton, on the part of that King, in 1460; as his eldest son, the Earl of Stafford, had fallen on the same side, in the first battle of St. Alban's. His grandson, the Earl of Stafford's son Henry, was restored and succeeded his grandfather, but afterwards lost his head at Salisbury, on the orders of Richard the Third. He was succeeded by his son Edward, restored again by Henry the Seventh, and executed by his cruel son Henry the Eighth. He was succeeded by his son Henry, restored to the barony of Stafford; Henry by his son Edward; Edward again by his son Henry. Henry died unmarried in 1637, and was succeeded in this fee barony by the heir general, his sole sister Mary, created afterwards Countess of Stafford. She married Sir William Howard, Knight of the Bath, the second son of Thomas Earl of Arundel, the virtu Lord. Sir William was created Viscount Stafford, and lost his head very unjustly amidst the cruel parties of Charles the Second's time. His family was again restored, and the male line became extinct in the last reign only. What claims remain in heirs general to the barony, I am not competent to say; but Earl Gower left the title open, being created Marquiss of Staffordshire, and not of Stafford.

when he died<sup>m</sup> leaving no issue. He was succeeded by his brother Edward. This Lord was a sufferer in Glyndwr's<sup>n</sup> rebellion, and obtained pardon for his tenants in Powys, who submitted, and had been engaged in it. He was warmly attached to Henry the Fourth, who gave him the Garter. In the succeeding reign, he took an active part with the Clergy against the sectaries of that season, persecuted the Lollards, discovered and seized Sir John Oldcastle in Powys where he had been concealed, and who was sacrificed<sup>o</sup> by our fifth

<sup>m</sup>This Lord had met the Duke of Lancaster at Leominster, when on his march from Bristol to Chester, after his landing at Ravenspurg.

<sup>n</sup> Owain had burnt the suburbs of the town of Pool.—*Carte*.

<sup>o</sup>“Lord Cobham,” says Lord Orford, “was the first author, as well as first martyr, among our Nobility; a man, whose virtues made him a reformer, whose valor a martyr, whose martyrdom an enthusiast.” He was suspended by a chain fastened round his waist over a slow fire. This torturing death he bore with constancy; and with his last breath he conjured Sir Thomas Erpingham, that if he should see him rise from the grave in three days, he would then intercede with the King in favor of his brethren, the Lollards. The Lordship of Broniarth was granted to the family of Tanad of Aber Tanad, the fifth of Henry the Fifth, for the assistance they gave in the apprehension of Oldcastle; in it is a field, called to this day Lord Cobham's garden. Sir Gruffudd Fychan, Lord of Byr-gedwyn, Treflydan, Garth and Caer fawr, in the opening of the fifteenth century, with his elder brother Jeuan, are parties to a deed in the possession of Mr. Mytton of Garth; whereby Edward Charleton, Lord of Powys, grants them several privileges for assisting in taking Sir John Oldcastle, in the third of Henry the Fifth, when the King himself was

Henry (his old friend and wild companion,) to an ecclesiastical bribe<sup>p</sup> for his French war. Charleton sent his son-in-law, Sir John Grey, to bring him a prisoner to London; and for this service Lord Powys had the thanks of Parliament. He was summoned as a Peer, from the third of Henry the Fourth to the eighth of

absent in France. From Dafydd Lloyd, eldest son of Sir Gruffudd, are descended the Lloyds of Llai, of Marrington, and Welsh Pool; from Cadwaladr, the second son, the Lloyds of Maes mawr, of Rhandir, and Humphrey ab Roger of Treflydan. Reinallt, his third son, under his claim as the youngest, had the family house at Garth. His grandson, John ab Gruffudd ab Reinallt, was the first, who took the name of Wynn, pure or white; whether from the flaxen colour of his hair, the paleness or delicacy of his complexion, or from some amiable qualities of his mind. "Humphrey Wynn, son of John Wynn of this House, was living in the year 1560." The sixth in descent from Humphrey married Dorothy, daughter of John Powel Esquire of Worthen, and had issue an only daughter Dorothy, married to Richard Mytton Esquire of Pont is Cowryd, who had issue Devereux Mytton Esquire, the present worthy possessor of Garth and Pont is Cowryd.

<sup>1</sup> Archbishop Chicheley had earnestly forwarded this French war, which that country itself then deprecated; and it gives Mr Andrews very good room to doubt the tennis-balls story, said to have been sent by the Dauphin to Henry at that time. Chicheley dreaded lest Henry should lend an ear to his Parliament, who still harped on the vast advantages which might be gained by seizing the possessions of the Church, and wished to amuse him with war; and, by way of composition, the Abbey lands, which depended on foreign Monasteries, and which had been given to the English Clergy, were yielded to the King by the Priesthood, and he complimented them again, by persecuting the Lollards.

Henry the Fifth, and died in 1421, leaving issue by his wife Eleanor, the widow of Roger Mortimer Earl of Marche,<sup>a</sup> two daughters, Joan and Joyce. Joan married

<sup>a</sup> By Mortimer she was mother of Anne, Countess of Cambridge, the heiress of England and Wales, and to whom our gracious Sovereign, in every rule of right, the Catholic line necessarily excluded, is lawful heir and lineal successor.

George the Third, the eldest son, by Augusta of Saxgotha, of Frederick, Prince of Wales, the son of George the Second, the son of George the First, the son of Ernest Augustus, Elector of Hanover, by Sophia, the daughter of Frederick Elector Palatine, and Elizabeth, the daughter of James the First, the son of Lord Darnley, and Mary, Queen of Scotland, the daughter of James the Fifth, the son of James the Fourth by Margaret, the eldest daughter of Henry the Seventh by Elizabeth, the eldest daughter of Edward the Fourth, the eldest son of Richard Duke of York, the son of Richard of Conisburg Earl of Cambridge, by Anne daughter and heiress of Roger Earl of Marche, the son of Edmund, Earl of Marche, by Philippa daughter and sole heiress of Lionel Duke of Clarence, the third son of Edward the Third. This Edmund was the son of Edmund Mortimer, the son of Roger, the first Earl of Marche of this family, the son of Edmund, the son of Roger, the son of Ralph by Gwladys Ddu, or the Black, the heiress of her brother Dafydd ab Llywelyn, the son of Llywelyn ab Iorwerth, or Leolinus Magnus, Prince of North Wales, the eldest son of Iorwerth drwyn-dwnn, the eldest son of Owain Gwynedd, the son of Gruffudd ab Cynan, the son of Cynan, the son of Iago or James, the son of Idwal, the son of Meurig, the son of Idwal foel, the son of Anarawd, the eldest son of Rhodri fawr, or Roderick the Great, the son of Merfyn frŷch, and Esyllt, the daughter and heiress of the last Prince Cynan Tindaethwy, the son of Rhodri Molwynog, the son of Idwal iwrch (or the roe) the son of Cadwaladr, the last King of the Britons, who abdicated, and died at Rome in 688. His present gracious Majesty is right heir, in lineal succession, to the British, Cambro-British, Anglo-Saxon, Anglo-Norman, English and Scottish Kings.

Sir John Grey of Heton,<sup>r</sup> who had the moiety of her estate, of which the Castle and Lordship of Powys were a part. He was, in the language of our Chroniclers, a man of great action, of great descent also, the son of Sir Thomas Grey of Berwick, by Jane, daughter of John Lord Mowbray. He distinguished himself in the Fifth Henry's French war; had large grants from this Prince in that kingdom, with the Earldom and Castle of Tankerville; but it does not appear he held English privileges, from his foreign honor; and his grandson seems to have discontinued the title. He remained in service in France, and Henry gave him the Garter, till with the Duke of Clarence,<sup>s</sup> and other distinguished soldiers,

*Qui multum fleti ad superos, belloque caduci,*

<sup>r</sup> Of the house of Heton, in Northumberland, was Sir Thomas Grey, who fell in that strange unintelligible plot at Southampton with the Earl of Cambridge, in the second year of Henry the Fifth. Shakespeare has told this story pathetically, but I conceive unjustly to the sufferers.. They were put to death, and their crimes rather declared afterwards to the people, than proved to public satisfaction before their execution. Cambridge had married the heiress of the Crowns of England and Wales. Shakespeare has heightened another scene, and marries Anne, the daughter and coheiress of Warwick (the widow, as he states her, of Edward Prince of Wales) to Richard Duke of Gloucester, who murdered her husband; whereas Anne was never married to Edward, but betrothed to him only.

<sup>s</sup> Clarence had been deceived by false intelligence. He thought the van of the Scots had been separated from the main body, and attacked them

he fell in the unfortunate action at Baugé in 1421. By his wife Joan he left a son, Henry de Powys, who is styled Earl of Tankerville. He was a child at his father's death, and in the sixth of Henry the Sixth was knighted with his young Sovereign at Leicester by the regent Duke of Bedford. He married Antigony, the illegitimate daughter of Humphrey, the regent Duke of Gloucester, and died in the twenty-eighth of Henry the Sixth, leaving issue Richard and Humphrey, and a daughter Elizabeth married to Sir Roger Kynaston of Hordly; whence a claim in that family to this fee Barony.

To return to Richard. He shared in that contentious time, and was attainted in the Parliament at Coventry in the short interval of Henry's, or rather his Queen's success, in 1460. I find him next restored, and at the siege of Alnwick with the Earl of Warwick, in the

with his cavalry alone. Finding his error, he fought desperately to redeem it; but numbers overpowered him. A Knight, named Swinton, wounded him in the face, and the mace of Lord Buchan deprived him of life. In the battle, besides Clarence, the Lords Roos and Tankerville were slain; the Earls of Dorset, Somerset, and Huntingdon, were taken prisoners. Buchan, who had been made Constable of France for this service, lost both life and victory, four years after, in the battle of Vernueil against Bedford, the younger brother of Clarence. Petrarch attributes the defeats suffered by the French, about this time, to their drunkenness. Their success under Dumourier of late is said to have arisen from it.

second of Edward the Fourth; and in the sixth of that king he died, leaving by his wife Margaret, the daughter of James Lord Audley, a son John, then six years old. He was a soldier also, as most men in that time, of his station, seem to have been. He served under the Earl of Oxford at the siege and sack of Ardres. He had summons to Parliament from the twenty-second of Edward the Fourth, by the style of Grey de Powys, to his death. At the former period he was just come of age; but the Barony was his own since the attainder and execution of Tiptoft, the learned but temporizing Earl of Worcester,<sup>†</sup> during the short restoration of Henry the Sixth, when the abeyance ceased. John married Anne, the daughter of William Herbert Earl of Pembroke, the first of that name, and left a son John. He died at the age of nineteen, leaving by his wife Margaret, daughter of Edmund Lord Dudley, a son Edward, aged one year. Edward married Anne, one of the daughters<sup>‡</sup> of Charles Brandon, Duke of Suffolk. By her

A. D.  
1494.

<sup>†</sup> The first Earl of Worcester of the name of Tiptoft was son to Joyce, the younger sister and coheiress of the Carletons. "When he fell," says Caxton, "the axe did then at one blow cut off more learning than was left in the heads of the surviving nobility."

<sup>‡</sup> By his second wife Anne. Suffolk's third wife was Mary, sister to Henry the Eighth, and widow of Lewis the Twelfth of France.

he had no issue; but by Jane Orwel, daughter<sup>w</sup> of Sir Lewis Orwel; he left four illegitimate children, Edward Grey, and three daughters. The last Lord served in France, and attended his father-in-law, Suffolk, in the campaign of 1524, when some French towns were taken, but nothing very memorable done, or perhaps in the way of conquest should be attempted.\* He died in 1551. He suffered a recovery of his estates, and by feoffment, will and codicil, settled the same in default of lawful issue on Jane Orwel for her life, remainder to Edward Grey, his natural son by her, in tail. In 1560 this Edward Grey conveys the manor of Plâs dinas to Edward Kynaston of Hordley, still in the family, in consideration of his relinquishing his claim to the other estates, as heir at law to the last Lord. In the twenty-ninth of Elizabeth the same Edward Grey conveys the Lordship and Castle of Powys to Sir Edward Herbert,

<sup>w</sup> “Nothing is more frequent in the Knightly ages,” says Mr. Andrews, “than to find the daughters of Barons, living unmarried with Kings and Noblemen. So Humphrey Duke of Gloucester married Eleanor, daughter of Reginald Lord Cobham, whom he had long kept as his mistress. In like manner the Cardinal Beaufort had left an illegitimate daughter by Alice, daughter of Fitzalan, Earl of Arundel.”

\* The Parliament of 1421 presented an address to Henry the Fifth, in which they observed that the conquest of France would be the ruin of England; and the reasons are obvious. In 1420 they had presented two petitions to the same effect.

the second son of that able statesman, fine scholar, and eminent soldier, William Herbert, Earl of Pembroke,<sup>y</sup> the second of his name and title, who flourished under four Princes,<sup>z</sup> of different aspects, and in difficult times. Sir Edward died in 1594, having restored the Castle; and had sepulture at Pool. He married an heiress of the

<sup>y</sup> Sir John Price in an Epistle Dedicatory to this Lord, with his Latin defence of the British History against Polydore Vergil, the last collector of the Peterpence in England, compliments Pembroke as a scholar and critic. Sir John did not live to publish this book, which was printed by his son, Richard Price, in 1573, about twenty years after the father's death. Sir John first published the Lord's Prayer, Creed, and the Ten Commandments in the Welsh tongue, and gave us the topography of Wales, which was augmented by Humphrey Llwyd, and stands at the head of our earlier Welsh histories. He had also assisted his friend Leland in his *Assertio Arthuri*. Sir John Price was of Brecknockshire, a Doctor of both Laws, and one of the King's Counsel in the Court of the Marches; and, says Mr. Morris, "was a man of good abilities, and had opportunities of understanding the history of the Ancient Britons, being one of the Commissioners employed by Henry the Eighth to survey the Monasteries, that were to be dissolved. By his defence he does not appear to have carefully perused the British copy of Tyssilio, interrupted perhaps by the hurry of business; for he hath not urged all that he might have said to the matter in dispute, provided he had carefully compared the original with the translation, and if he had also had a thorough knowledge of our Ancient British Bards, who best knew the use of words, and whose works were indeed the root and foundation of the Ancient British History; the histories of the origin of most nations being on the same footing."

<sup>z</sup> Henry the Eighth, Edward, Mary and Elizabeth.

Stanleys of Hertfordshire, the daughter of Thomas Stanley of Standon, Master of the Mint, and was succeeded by his son, William, made Knight of the Bath, at the coronation of James the First, and by his son, Charles, created Lord Powys. He married Eleanor, the daughter of Henry Percy, the eighth Earl of Northumberland, and had one son, Percy, who succeeded him. Percy had been made Knight and Baronet, his father then living, by James the First, in his rage of Knighthood<sup>a</sup> and Baronetism. He died in 1666, and was buried at Poole, leaving issue by his wife, Elizabeth, sister of the first Earl of Craven, one son, William,

<sup>a</sup> This ceremony, and so often repeated, must have been disagreeable to James. Sir Kenelm Digby tells us, "he hated a drawn sword, since the fright his mother was in, during her pregnancy, at the sight of the swords, with which David Rizzio, her Secretary, was assassinated in her presence; and hence it came," says Sir Kenelm, "that her son had such an aversion all his life to a drawn sword.\* I remember," proceeds he, "when he dubbed me Knight, in the ceremony of putting a naked sword on my shoulder, he could not endure to look upon it, but turned his face another way; insomuch that, in lieu of touching my shoulder, he had almost thrust the point into my eyes, had not the Duke of Buckingham guided his hand aright." I remember to have heard, that when he knighted old Sir William Morice of Clennenue in Carnarvonshire, and turning upon him, after he quitted his sword, "By Christ," says the King, "I fear I have knighted an old woman," and Sir William's picture justifies the notion. James was personally not unknown to the Welsh. He had progressed to

\* James is said to have been painted abroad with a scabbard without a sword, and with a sword which nobody could draw, though several were pulling at it.--*Passim*.

who was created Earl by Charles the Second, and by his brother James Marquis, and finally after his abdication Duke of Powys. He married Elizabeth, daughter of the Marquis of Worcester, and died in the Court of St. Germain's in 1696. He was succeeded by his son, William, who was restored to the Earldom and Marquisate. He married a co-heiress of the Prestons of Furness in Lancashire, and by her had two sons, William and Edward, and many daughters. Lady Mary, the eldest,<sup>b</sup> fell under the lash of Pope. The last Marquis, William, died without issue, and left his estates to Henry Arthur Herbert of Oakley Park, created Earl Powys by George the Second, who afterwards married

Chester in 1617, and was attended by great numbers of our countrymen, who came out of curiosity to see him. The weather was very dry, the roads dusty, and the King almost suffocated. He did not know well how to get civilly rid of them, when one of his attendants, putting his head out of the coach, said, "It was his Majesty's pleasure, that those, who were the best Gentlemen, should ride forwards." Away scampered the Welsh; and one solitary man was left behind. "And so, Sir," says the King to him, "and you are not a Gentleman then?" "Oh yes, and please hur Majesty, hur is as good a Shentleman, as the rest; but hur Ceffyl, God help hur, is not so good."

<sup>b</sup> But nobler scenes Maria's dreams unfold,  
Hereditary realms, and worlds of gold.

She went to France with a large sum of money, got in the Mississippi bubble, with a view of marrying the Pretender, and she had a notion also of going as an adventurer to the South American Gold Mines.

Barbara, niece to the Marquis, and daughter of his brother, Lord Edward. The present Earl is the son of this alliance, and is descended from Sir Richard Herbert, who, on their defeat at Banbury, was taken and beheaded with his brother, the Earl of Pembroke,<sup>c</sup> by the rebel army, and in retaliation of similar cruelties, particularly in North Wales, committed by their own. Richard, the Second son of Sir Richard, who died at Banbury, was great grandfather to the historical, the philosophical, that right whimsical Peer, Edward Herbert, first Baron of Cherbury; a man at once and together, the negociator, the scholar, statesman, soldier; the genius and absurdity of his time and nation.<sup>d</sup>

<sup>c</sup> Pembroke beheaded Thomas ab Robin of Cochwillan, of the Tribe of Marchudd, near the castle of Conway, for that he was a follower of the House of Lancaster; and his wife, it is said, carried away his head in her apron; and, adds Sir John of Gwydir, "Earl Herbert's desolation consumed the whole borough of Llanrŵst, and all the vale of Conway, to cold coals,\* whereof the print is yet extant, the very stones of the ruins of many habitations carrying yet the colour of the fire."

<sup>d</sup> This first Lord of Cherbury, in his early youth, had spent some short time in the vale of Clwyd. Thus he speaks in respect to that matter. "After I had attained the age of nine, during all which time I lived in my grandmother's house at Eyton, my parents thought fit to send me to some place, where I might learn the Welsh tongue, as believing it necessary for me to treat with my friends and tenants, who understood no other language. Whereupon I was recommended to Mr. Edward Thelwal, of Plâs y ward

\* Cinders.

To proceed with the descendants: The Ky-nastons, of whom were various branches, seated at Stocks, Morton, Walford, Shotton, Bradenheath,

in Denbighshire. This gentleman I must remember with honor, as having of himself acquired the exact knowledge of Greek, Latin, French, Italian and Spanish, and all other learning, having for that purpose neither gone beyond seas, nor so much as had the benefit of any Universities. Besides, he was of that rare temper in governing his choler, that I never saw him angry during the time of my stay there, and have heard so much of him many years before; when occasion of offence was given him, I have seen him redden in the face, and after remain for a time silent; but when he spake, his words were so calm and gentle, that I found he had digested his choler; yet I confess I could never obtain that perfection, as being subject to choler and passion more than I ought, and generally to speak my mind freely, and indeed rather to imitate those, who having fire within doors chuse rather to give it vent, than suffer it to burn the house. I commend much more the manner of Mr. Thelwal; and certainly he, that can forbear speaking for some while, will remit much of his passion; but as I could not learn much of him in this way, so I did as little profit in learning the Welsh, or any other of those languages that worthy gentleman understood, having a tertian ague for the most part of the time, being nine months, I staid in the house." From comparing dates it must have happened, that, whilst young Herbert was at Plâs y Ward, the lady of the house, Catherine of Beren, was living. She had married Edward Thelwal to her fourth husband. She was a singular character; and I wonder Herbert should not have noticed her. By Thelwal she had no children; by her first husband, Salisbury, the heir of Lleweni, she had Thomas Salisbury, who was executed in Babington's plot the twenty-first of September, 1587. Her second son, Sir John Salisbury the Strong, succeeded at Lleweni. Her estate at Beren had followed the heiress of the Lleweni house into the Combermere family, and was sold by the present Sir Robert Cotton to

Otley,<sup>e</sup> Hordley, Hardwick, Bryngwyn, Trewylan, Lee, Kinersley, Knockin, Ryton, Llwyn y Mapsis, and Pant y byrsle,<sup>f</sup> descend from a common ancestor, Sir Gruffudd Fychan of Caer Hywel, the son of Iorwerth,

the late Honourable Thomas Fitzmaurice. Catherine's second husband was Sir Richard Clough; by him she had two daughters; one married to Wynn of Melai; the other to Salisbury of Bacheagraig, whence is descended our ingenious country-woman, Mrs. Piozzi. Her third husband was Maurice Wynn of Gwydir; her daughter by Maurice married Simon Thelwal, the eldest son of her last husband by a former marriage. Simon's son, Edward Thelwal, married Sidney, the daughter of William Wynn of Garthgynan, the fourth son of Sir John of Gwydir, the historian; and their daughter and heiress married Sir William Williams of Llanforda, the eldest son of the Speaker. Hence the connection with Sir John Wynn of Wynnstay, who was first cousin to Sidney, and who left his great property to Mr. Williams, her grandson, afterward Sir Watkin Williams Wynn, the grandfather of the present Sir Watkin Williams Wynn. Catherine died in the life of Thelwal, and was buried at Llanufudd without a monument, notwithstanding her numerous descendants; from which she was called Mam Cymru, the mother of Wales.

<sup>e</sup> Of the House of Otley was Sir Francis Kynaston, of whom and his wife an alabaster monument remains in the church of Ellesmere. He died in 1590. There was another and later Sir Francis of the same House, an Esquire of the body to Charles the First, who translated the loves of Troilus and Cressida from Chaucer into Latin. Otley came to the Kynastons by the marriage of Kynaston of Stocks to Elizabeth, daughter and heiress to William Otley of Otley.

<sup>f</sup> John Salisbury, in 1660, records an Arthur Kynaston of Pant y byrsle, then living, as a famous and faithful genealogist. His correspondence with Mr. Robert Vaughan of Hengwrt is still extant in manuscript.



CATHARINE of BEREN.

*From a Picture at Glusceg Lodge.*

*Published Aug. 1. 1798. by Philip Yerke Esq. Wrexham.*



the son of Maredudd, the son of Bleddyn, the founder of the tribe. The family of Hordley and Hardwick is still extant. It descends from Sir Roger Kynaston of Hordley, fourth son of Gruffudd Kynaston of Stocks. Sir Roger was an eminent soldier and partizan of the House of York, and distinguished in the battles of Blore, Banbury, and Barnet. On occasion of the first were given him the Arms of Audley, the enemy's general, who fell in the fight, and, as the family papers inform me, by Sir Roger himself.<sup>g</sup> I conjecture his crest, an armed hand, in the act to strike, issuing from a sun in full glory, is derived from Barnet battle, and allusory to the accident, which gave Edward the victory.<sup>h</sup> Sir Roger was Constable of Harlech Castle, thrice Sheriff of Shropshire, and once of Merioneth; an office then of trust and emolument. He married, first, Elizabeth, the daughter of Lord Cobham, and widow of Lord Strange; by her he had one son, Sir

<sup>g</sup> The descendants of Sir Roger bear the Audley Arms in their first quarter.

<sup>h</sup> The device on the Arms and Ensigns of the Earl of Oxford, a Lancastrian, was a star shooting forth rays, and Edward's was a sun. Warwick's men, seeing the star advancing through a fog, mistook it for Edward's standard, and fell upon their friends with such fury, that they were broken and dispersed, before the Earl of Oxford could rectify the error. These last, believing themselves betrayed, fled towards the enemy with great precipitation.

Thomas Kynaston, who died without issue. Sir Roger died the eleventh of Henry the Seventh. His second wife was Elizabeth, daughter of Henry Grey, Earl of Tankerville, by Antigony, daughter of Humphrey Duke of Gloucester. By her he had Humphrey, called the Wild; a gentleman remembered by many strange pranks, still the talk of the neighbouring peasantry. The cave in the rock at Ness cliff, called Kynaston's cave, was the retreat of himself and mad companions. He was outlawed the sixth of Henry the Seventh, pardoned the next year, and died in 1534.

To return to the common ancestor, Sir Gruffudd Fychan. He was father to another Gruffudd Fychan, the father of Gruffudd Fychan of Stocks, the father of Philip, the father of Madog who first took the name of Kynaston, the father of John, Steward of Ellesmere in the thirteenth of Richard the Second, the father of Madog Kynaston of Stocks, killed in the battle of Shrewsbury, who married Isolda, daughter of the Earl of Northumberland, and was father of John Kynaston, who had his pardon from Henry the Fourth, the father of Gruffudd Kynaston of Stocks, Steward of Ellesmere in the ninth of Henry the Sixth, father of Sir Roger of Hordley his fourth son the soldier, who was the father of Humphrey the Wild, the father of Edward Kynaston,

who died the thirty-fourth of Elizabeth, the father of Roger Kynaston, the father of Edward Kynaston, the father of Roger Kynaston, the father of Edward Kynaston, member for Shrewsbury, the father of John Kynaston, who sat for Shropshire in many parliaments, the grandfather by his son Roger of my worthy friend, John Kynaston Powel Esquire, the present member, to whom I am particularly indebted for his liberal communications.

From Cynrig efell, Lord of Eglwysegle,<sup>i</sup> the twin son of Madog ab Maredudd, and great grandson of the founder of the tribe, are descended the Davieses of Llannerch or Lleweni fechan, and Gwasanau; the last, it is said, is a corruption of Hosannah, and allusory to the Alleluiatic<sup>k</sup> victory gained over the Saxons and

<sup>i</sup> Eglwysegle is a division of the Lordship of Bromfield, and contains the townships of Treblisham, Broughton, Stanstye villa, Acton, Morton Wallicorum, and Erddig.

<sup>k</sup> “The Victoria Alleluatica, fought in 420 between the Britons, headed by the French Bishops, Germanus\* and Lupus, and a crowd of Pagan Picts and Saxons, who were carrying desolation through the country. This event happened in Easter week, when the Christian army, wet with their recent baptism in the river Alun, were led by their holy commanders against the

\* Quid taceam, Germane, tuam sine sanguine palmam,  
Victaque Cambriacis Saxona tela sonis?--*Passim*.

Picts beneath it. This old mansion was garrisoned in the civil wars, and taken from the royalists by the A. D. 1645. Parliament General, Sir William Brereton. Llannerch came to the family on the marriage of Robert Davies,<sup>1</sup> of Gwasanau, with Anne, the eldest daughter and heiress of Sir Peter Mutton, Chief Justice of North Wales. The last of the male line at Llannerch was John Davies, who died a bachelor in 1785, and was succeeded by his sisters, coheiresses; the elder, Letitia of Llannerch,

Pagan host. Germanus instructed them to attend to the word he gave, and repeat it. Accordingly he pronounced that of Alleluia. His soldiers caught the sacred sound, and repeated it with such extatic force, that the hills resounding with the cry struck terror into the enemy, who fled on all sides; numbers perished by the sword, and numbers in the adjacent river." †—*Pennant*.

<sup>1</sup> This Gentleman was grandfather by his son Mutton Davies to Robert Davies of Llannerch, an able naturalist and Welsh antiquary; and several of his letters to men eminent in the same studies remain. He collected the valuable library of MSS. that were at Llannerch. His grandson, Robert, the father of the last gentleman, was of a very hospitable turn; almost daily he had a led horse taken with him to St. Asaph, ready saddled, to bring home to Llannerch any friend, that might not be so immediately ready to start with him. The old gardens at Llannerch are within my memory; they were made by Mutton Davies in the foreign taste, with images and water tricks. Among the rest you were led to a sun-dial, which as you approached, spouted in your face; on it was written;

*Alas! my friend, time soon will overtake you;  
And if you do not cry, by G—d I'll make you.*

† The river at present would not drown a puppy. It might happen in a great flood.

married to Daniel Leo Esquire; the younger, Mary of Gwasanau, to Philip Puleston of Hafod y Wern<sup>m</sup> Esquire.

The Eytons of Coed Llai, or Leeswood, have the same source from Cynrig. They are represented in the Reverend Hope Wynne Eyton, Vicar of Mold. His ancestor, Gruffudd ab Nicholas ab Deicus, married Margaret, the daughter of the old Bosworth soldier, John ab Ellis Eyton, who lies buried at Rhiwabon; and although her husband was descended from Bleddyn ab Cynfyn, and her father from Tudur Trevor, she called all her children after his name of Eyton, and all her sons John, in affection to him also.

From Cynrig descended the Wynnes of Tower. The line ended in Roger Wynne, the younger and surviving brother of that facetious old Gentleman, Dr. William Wynne. Roger died without issue, and left the Tower estate to his widow, who gave it to her niece, the lady of the Reverend Hope Wynne Eyton, the present

<sup>m</sup> Ieuan ab Hywel ab Maredudd, the fourth in descent from Rhodri, Lord of Anglesey, (the brother of our Prince, Dafydd ab Owain Gwynedd) had a third daughter and coparcener, that married Hywel ab Gronw ab Hywel of Maelor, and by him had two daughters, viz. Gwerfyl, married to Tudur ab Hob y dili; and Alice, married to John Puleston, a younger son of Emral: She brought Hafod y Wern into that family.—*Gwydir History*.

worthy possessor. An odd circumstance happened in this house. During the wars of York and Lancaster, the place belonged to Reinallt<sup>n</sup> ab Gruffudd ab Bleddyn, one of the six gallant Welsh captains,<sup>o</sup> who defended Harlech Castle against the fourth Edward. He and his people had continual frays with the citizens of Chester. In 1465 a considerable number of the latter came to Mold fair; a fight ensued and much slaughter on both sides, but Reinallt had the advantage; took prisoner

<sup>n</sup> In Reinallt's time the people of Chester so cordially hated the Welsh, A.D. that they would not permit any of that nation to inhabit among them unmolested. 1450. Lewys Glynn Cothi, a noted bard of that age, and a sharer in the wars and fortune of Jasper Earl of Pembroke, (uncle to Henry the Seventh) intended to settle in Chester, and to that end married a widow there; but the next day the citizens, under some pretence or other, took from him all his household furniture, and insisted on his quitting the city. This treatment so much enraged him, that he immediately wrote a poem, which is still extant, and sent it to Reinallt of the Tower, petitioning his assistance to revenge the injury done him by the men of Chester. Reinallt, being ripe for the enterprize, collected his people, went to Chester, and put the citizens, as many as fell into his hands, to the sword; and if we can credit another poem sent to Reinallt from a Bard of Meirionydd, called Tudur Penllyn, to thank him for that day's work, he had driven several of them, like a flock of sheep, to be drowned in the river Dee.

<sup>o</sup> Another of these valiant Welshmen was Dafydd ab Ieuan ab Einion, who baffled for a long time all the endeavours of Pembroke to take the Castle. "I held a tower in France," said he, "till all the old women in Wales heard of it, and now the old women of France shall hear how I defended this Welsh Castle."—*Gwydir History*.

Robert Bryne, linen-draper, Mayor of Chester, led him to his Tower, and hung him with his own halter in the hall, where the iron staple, to which he was suspended, still remains.

The Parrys of Plâs newydd in Denbighshire, and of Warfield in Berkshire, are of the ancient stock of Cynrig efell. They are very respectably represented in Richard Parry Esquire. His ancestor, Richard Parry, Bishop of St. Asaph, succeeded Morgan<sup>p</sup> in

<sup>p</sup> Morgan was of the Tribe of Nefydd hardd or the handsome; was of St. John's, Cambridge; Vicar of Welsh-Pool, and afterwards had Llanrhaidr mochnant. He was made Bishop of Llandaff in 1595, and translated in 1601 to St. Asaph, where he died in 1604. Morgan in his great work, the Welsh bible, acknowledges therein his obligations to Dr. Powel, the historian, Bishop Vaughan\* of London, Archdeacon Prÿs, and to Dr. Gabriel Goodman, Dean of Westminster. Goodman was a pious, profitable, and learned man; a native of Ruthin, where he founded the school, and an hospital. He supported Camden in his peregrinations, who through his interest was made Under-master of Westminster school. Dr. Goodman translated into English, as we now have it, the first Epistle to the Corinthians. He was forty years Dean of Westminster, and died in 1601. His nephew, Godfrey Goodman, Bishop of Gloucester, was a man of learning also, but in many respects a strange character. He died a Roman Catholic, as he professes himself in his extraordinary will. † He wrote a

\* Dr. Richard Vaughan was a native of Carnarvonshire, of St. John's College Cambridge, Chaplain to Elizabeth, and successively Bishop of Bangor, Chester, and London. His merit was universally allowed to be equal to his dignity in the Church, but none of his writings were ever printed. Fuller tells us, in his usual style, that he was a very corpulent man, but spiritually minded; and Owen, his countryman, has addressed to him one of his best complimentary epigrams.--*Granger*

† See Appendix.

A. D. the See. Morgan, encouraged by Archbishop Whit-  
1588. gift, had published the Welsh version of the old

panegyric on Cromwel, who ejected him of his preferments. "He was," says Echard, "the only Apostate Bishop since the Reformation, and was the only Bishop, that left children to beg their bread;" whereas he was never married, or had any. He died in 1655, and was buried by his directions near the font in St. Margaret's, Westminster. To revert to Camden. The accounts of Wales in his Britannia have but little information. We have a tradition, that he came no further into North Wales than Corwen, was taken there for an English spy, and insulted by the people. This put an end to his Welsh travels. M Morris complains of this great man bitterly, in his correspondence with Mr. Richard. "Have you heard," says he, "what success my reveries had, in converting the Doctor (Philips) and his friend Pegge from the Camdenian faction? I am now, at my leisure hours, drawing out some heads on the same subject for the Cymrodorion, who talk of publishing memoirs, in the nature of those of the royal Academy of Sciences at Paris. All that I am afraid of is, that we shall draw so many English antiquaries about our ears, by these mountain antiquities, that we shall be borne down by the noise, like a poor fellow with a good cause, whose rich antagonist had fee'd all the Council on the Circuit against him. Neither truth nor reason can withstand the madness of a mob, composed of all languages, and all manner of learning. It requires the knowledge of a Selden or an Usher, to stop the current of such a monstrous stream, and to bring truth into its old channel. If such a person as you had a paper war with a powerful party, you can call to your aid old Homer, Hesiod, Pindar etc. etc. whose very names would make a London bookseller to tremble. But there is a set of these people in London engaged in the publication of Camden's Britannia, as rich as Jews, and would search all the garrets in town for writers, if their darling Diana of the Ephesians was touched; and they would mind no more to hear of Taliesyn, Aneurin Gwawdrydd, and the Triades, than if they were Hottentots from the Cape of Good Hope, and would get affidavits inserted in the public papers, that these were three infidels, that came over with the last India Ships, to the

and new Testament; the latter he had corrected only from the former translation of William Sales-

great danger of the Church and Constitution. You then, who have such powerful auxiliaries from the coasts of Greece and Italy at your back, should break the ice, in publishing something on this head, and I wish you would. You will see, in reading Camden's *Britannia*, room enough to animadvert upon him, without any great stock of British antiquities. A Cambro-Briton, with a sharp eye and sound judgment, would make such remarks upon him, as would make an English reader wonder, where his own eyes have been all the while. Attack him with your pen and ink. It is not barking at a lion, it is standing a friend to truth. Attack this great Goliath in his heel, or some vulnerable part, and you will, like little David, give a good account of him bye and bye. The Edition, I think, you have of him is his first, A. D. 1585, where you have him unguarded, and without armour. Begin with his Celtic words, which he endeavours to explain by the Welsh, and you will see that he knew nothing of the matter, tho positive as he is about our etymologies and antiquities. Why should we bear abuse, if we can defend ourselves and ancient authors? Ask him how he came to use the fallacy of deriving Servius's *Gessi, viri fortes*, from *Gwâs dewr*; for the comparison is, *Gessi* and *Gwâs*, and so on; and room enough for you to play your great guns against the enemy. Do't flinch from attacking Camden: I will send you an account, when I have leisure, of some parts of his body, that are not invulnerable; not about his heels, but his head. His *Britannia* is the great oracle of the English, and is swallowed without chewing, because the pill is gilt. Take off the gilding, and you will find sad stuff under it. The design was great, the structure magnificent, but the performance or execution poor and shabby, notwithstanding that it was covered with great learning and industry. But the case is, the foundation was bad, and truth has suffered to serve a national pride. The memory of the ancient inhabitants is endeavoured to be darkened and their names obscured, and every occasion of shadow is taken to revile them, and their writers, and noble actions in war, whilst the Conquerors and ruling Nation are cried up where there is little colour for it."

bury<sup>1</sup> and Bishop Davies.<sup>1</sup> In 1620, Bishop Parry, with the assistance of Dr. John Davies<sup>2</sup> of Mallwyd, corrected and republished Morgan's bible, which is the version

<sup>1</sup> Salesbury was a Denbighshire man, brought up a lawyer, of Thavies Inn. He had composed and dedicated a Welsh dictionary to Henry the Eighth; had written a Welsh treatise on Rhetoric, and first published in Welsh the Epistles and Gospels for the whole year, in Edward the Sixth's time. It is a doubt whether an almanac, printed in the time of Henry the Eighth, and the first that came out in Welsh, was by Salesbury or Sir John Price.

<sup>2</sup> Davies was in exile for his religion in Mary's reign, was restored to his country on the accession of Elizabeth, and successively Bishop of St. Asaph, and St. David's. He was of the Tribe of Ednowain Bendew, and was employed, with other eminent scholars, by Elizabeth to translate the Bible into English; and he translated all that part from the beginning of Joshua to the end of Samuel. He translated also parts of the new Testament into Welsh, particularly some of the Epistles. Ob. 1581.

<sup>3</sup> Dr Davies was an universal scholar, the son of a weaver of the parish of Llanferres in Denbighshire, of the Tribe of Marchudd, and brought up under Bishop Parry in the school at Ruthin, and was afterwards his Chaplain. Davies was author of the Welsh grammar and dictionary, and translated the thirty-nine articles and Parson's (the Jesuit's) Resolution into elegant Welsh prose. Thomas ab William,\* the Physician, who lived at Trefriw near Llanrwst, had begun a Welsh and Latin dictionary, which Davies, at the request of the Gwydir family, completed and published. In his church of Mallwyd, in defiance of Archbishop Laud, he removed again the Communion table from the east end to the middle of the church,

\* Thomas ab William was of the Tribe of Ednowain Bendew. He is commonly known by the name of Sir Thomas ab William, having probably taken his Bachelor's degree. He was born, as he says himself, at the foot of Snowdon. He wrote a book of medical directions and receipts; also a book of Pedigrees, and an Herbal in Latin, Welsh and English, still extant in MS. He was reputed a papist, and is supposed to have known something of the gunpowder plot; as it is said, he persuaded Sir John Wynn, the historian, not to go up to that Parliament.

and a most excellent one it is, with little variation, now in use. A version<sup>†</sup> of the Psalms, in the four and twenty Welsh metres, was made by William Myddelton, a younger branch of the house of Gwaenynog, a Captain in Elizabeth's navy, and who had served in her armies. This versification is one of the most ingenious compositions in the Welsh language, and it may be said of the Captain, in the words of Bishop Fell, that he was a pupil of Minerva, as well

where it still remains. He built three public bridges at his own charge, and did other charities at Mallwyd, where he resided. He was a Justice of the Peace and an useful Magistrate, and universally beloved and esteemed in his country. Ob. 1644. He left no family. His wife was a daughter of Rhys Wynn of Llwynynn, and sister to Bishop Parry's wife.

<sup>†</sup>The metrical version of the Welsh psalms, now in use, was made by Edmund Prŷs, Archdeacon of Merioneth, in the time of Elizabeth. He was an eminent scholar and poet, of the Tribe of Marchudd, and had assisted Bishop Morgan in his biblical Welsh translation. He was Rector of Maenturog in Merionethshire, where he lies buried. He outlived eighty years, for at that age he addressed some excellent hexameter Latin verses to Dr. Davies of Mallwyd, on the publication of his grammar in 1621. There are fifty-four controversial poems between the Archdeacon and a contemporary Bard, called William Cynwal, extant; both holding a conspicuous seat in the first class of the Welsh poets of that age. It is said moreover that Cynwal fell a victim to the poignancy of the Archdeacon's satire. The last poem of the fifty-four is a most pathetic elegy, composed by the Archdeacon, when the news was brought him of the death of his rival.

as Pallas. It is pleasant a soldier should so well dispose of his leisure hours. Some of his Psalms were penned in the West Indies, some on the Atlantic ocean, and others in his native country. In his Welsh correspondence he stiles himself Gwylm Ganoldref, or Middle-town. He wrote also Barddoniaeth, or the art of Welsh poetry, which is added to the appendix of John Dafydd Rhys's<sup>u</sup> grammar.

It was a distinguished family of nine sons and seven daughters;

..... *longo ordine nati,*  
*Clari omnes, patria<sup>w</sup> pariter virtute suâque.*

From Cynrig come the Williamses of Fron, or Arddynwynt. They are represented in the reverend Richard

<sup>u</sup> John Dafydd Rhys took his Doctor's degree in Physic in Italy. He undertook and published his grammar, to assist in understanding Dr. Morgan's translation of the bible into Welsh, then just completed, and he took great pains to preserve and communicate the true sound of the Welsh letters. Had the ancients done the same, we should have been nearer in our pronunciation of the Latin and Greek. To acquire the pronunciation with precision in any language, frequent exercise of the voice, accompanied by frequent corrections of the ear, is necessary. The Doctor has left a treatise on the orthography and pronunciation of the Italian language.

<sup>w</sup> The father, Richard Myddelton, was Governor of Denbigh Castle in the reigns of Edward the Sixth, Mary and Elizabeth. He was descended from Ririd Flaidd, and was the fourth son of Foulk Myddelton, the third brother

Williams, Rector of Machynllaeth; a Gentleman who has embellished our Welsh poetry by his elegant and

of Roger Myddelton,\* of Gwaenynog. The eldest son of Richard the Governor, was Richard, whose second son, Roger, married the heiress of Cadogan. This estate had been forfeited by Edward Jones Esquire, but restored to this lady, his descendant. Jones suffered in Babington's plot. The second son of Richard Myddelton the Governor, was Simon; the third William, distinguished in both elements; as a sea officer, he had done good service in apprising his Admiral, the Lord Thomas Howard, in time to avoid the superior force Spain had sent off the Azores to meet him; and he escaped with the loss of that memorable person, Sir Richard Greenville, his Vice-Admiral. The Captain is said to have been the first, who smoked tobacco in London, for Raleigh was too good a courtier to have disgusted his Sovereign in that particular. Sir Thomas, the fourth son of Richard the Governor, was bred in London a merchant, traded chiefly with Antwerp, made a great fortune, and purchased Chirk Castle from the Lord St. John of Bletso, in the year 1695. He was Sheriff of London in 1613, and having married a young wife in his old age, gave occasion to the song, "Room for cuckolds, here comes my Lord Mayor." The fifth son, Charles, succeeded his father in the government of Denbigh Castle. The sixth son was that eminent Philosopher and engineer, Sir Hugh Myddelton, who brought the new river to London, then called Myddelton's waters. He served in six parliaments for Denbigh, and was made a Baronet in 1622, and died in 1631. The seventh son, Robert, was a master of Welsh prosody, and left a treatise on that subject. The eighth son, Foulk, married the heiress, Wynn, of Bodlith, and was sheriff of Denbighshire in 1610, and

\* Roger was the eldest son of Dafydd Myddelton of the Myddelton's of Myddelton, descended from Ririd Flaidd. Dafydd his father is styled Receiver of Denbigh, and Valectus Domini Regis, the second year of Richard the third. As a picture of the barbarous times in which it happened, there is a story of this Dafydd Myddelton, that having gained the affections of Margaret Done of Utkington, in Cheshire, but not her parents consent, she was bestowed upon another; which Dafydd not brooking, met the groom leading his wife out of church and killed him on the spot. He then carried off his mistress and immediately married her; so that she was a maid, a wife, a widow, and a wife again, in the same day.

harmonious English versions. He is moreover a good Latin poet.

the heiress of this branch married Thomas Meredith Esquire of Pentrebychan. Pierce Myddelton was the ninth and last son. The Lord Mayor was father to Sir Thomas Myddelton of Chirk Castle, a distinguished character in the Common-wealth. The latter was Member for the county of Denbigh and took the field on the part of the Parliament, when he was near sixty years of age, was Serjeant Major General to the forces in North Wales, and in conjunction with Sir William Brereton in 1643 took the Castle of Holt. In 1644 he relieved Oswestry, and beat the King's forces in a sharp action at Montgomery, for which he had the thanks of the House. I find him in 1648 among the secluded members, and bound in a bond of twenty-thousand pounds not to disturb the government. In 1659 with Sir George Booth, he declared too precipitately for Charles the Second, when his Castle was besieged, and taken by Lambert, and one side demolished, and the trees in his Park cut and sold. He died at the age of eighty in 1666, having survived his son, Sir Thomas Myddelton made a Baronet at the Restoration. The last mentioned Sir Thomas, was father to another Sir Thomas, who by his second wife, Charlotte, daughter of Keeper Bridgman, had an only daughter, Charlotte, first married to the Earl of Warwick, and afterwards to Mr. Secretary Addison, by whom she had a daughter lately deceased, who left her estate to her relations, the Bridgmans. Sir Thomas, leaving no male issue, was succeeded by his brother Sir Richard, repeatedly Member for Denbighshire, and father of Sir William, who died unmarried in 1718. The Baronetage extinguished, but the estate followed the entail to Robert Myddelton, the eldest son of Richard Myddelton of Llŷsfasi, the third son of the old soldier, Sir Thomas the Knight. Robert died without issue, and was succeeded by his brother John, succeeded by his son, Richard, the father of Richard, the last gentleman, who died unmarried in 1796, leaving his three sisters coheiresses. To return to Sir Thomas Myddelton, the first Baronet. By his second wife, sister to Sir John Trevor of Brynkinallt, Master of the Rolls, and Speaker



GEORGE LORD JEFFRIES.

*Lord Chancellor.*

*From a Picture at Erthig.*



## The Kyffyns of Maenan, Bodfach, and Glasgoed,

of the House of Commons, he left a posthumous son, Thomas, born in 1663. This gentleman was bred to the law, and the favorite at the Chancery-bar of his uncle Trevor,\* then first Commissioner; but this great lawyer being used to treat the Counsel with extraordinary freedom, something he dropped of this nature to his nephew, was said to go so near his heart, that it brought his life to a period, who for his age was an ornament to the profession. He died in 1696. Among his other virtues Trevor was an œconomist. He had dined by himself one day at the Rolls, and was drinking his wine quietly, when his cousin Roderic Lloyd was unexpectedly introduced to him from a side door. "You rascal," said Trevor to the servant, "And you have brought my cousin Roderic Lloyd Esquire, Prothonotary of North Wales, Marshal to Baron Price, and so forth, and so forth, up my *back stairs*. Take my cousin Roderic Lloyd Esquire, Prothonotary of North Wales, Marshal to Baron Price, and so forth and so forth; take him instantly back, down my *back stairs*, and bring him up my *front stairs*." Roderic in vain remonstrated, and whilst he was conveying down one, and up the other stairs, his Honor removed the bottle and glasses. Another adventure befell Roderic at the Rolls. He was returning rather elevated from his club one night, and ran against the pump in Chancery lane. Conceiving somebody had struck him, he drew, made a lounge at the pump, and the sword entering the spout, the pump being crazy fell down. Roderic concluded he had killed his man; left his sword in the pump, and retreated to his old friend's house at the Rolls. There he was concealed by the servants for the night. In the morning his Honor, having heard the story, came himself to deliver him from his consternation and confinement in the coal-hole. Trevor was consulted by James the Second and his Ministers, and had the virtue to tell Jefferies, on the very violent

\* Trevor had been first Commissioner of the Great Seal, Master of the Rolls, and Speaker of the House of Commons, whence he was expelled for corruption. This made the Wits observe, "That Justice was blind, but Bribery only squinted;" for Trevor squinted abominably, as his picture shews.

descended from Einion efell,<sup>\*</sup> who resided at Llwynymaen, was Lord of Cynllaeth, and died in 1196. The surname of Kyffyn was first taken by Madog, the fifth

proceedings against Cornish,† “That if he pursued that unfortunate man to execution, it would be no better than murder;” but his advice was not taken. Trevor was first cousin to Jefferies. The latter was certainly a great lawyer, however bad a man; and the reports‡ published by Vernon were without doubt the work of Jefferies, but his name was too unpopular to be put to them. He had a vicious profuse way of speaking and debating from the Bench. In the sad business of Mrs. Lisle’s trial he throws a sneer at his countrymen. Bullying a witness that he thought would not speak out, he says, “Look thee, if thou can’st not comprehend what I mean, I will repeat it again, for thou shall see what countryman I am by my telling my story over twice: Therefore I ask thee once again.” “Hold your tongue,” said he one day to a Counsel, who seemed forward in magnifying his success in untying a knotty point in a cause; “You are too troublesome: You are exactly like a hen; if you lay an egg, you must cackle over it.” The youngest brother of Jefferies was Canon of Canterbury, and grandfather to Dr. Jefferies now living, the Residentiary of St. Paul’s. The Canon died young, it is said, broken-hearted with the sad conduct and character of his brother, the Chancellor. There was a picture at Acton of their father in mourning for his seventh son, the Canon. The old man outlived all his sons.—*Suorum ultimus*.

<sup>\*</sup>Einion bore parted per fess, sable, and argent, lion rampant, counter-changed of the field, armed, langued, gules. Cynrig bore gules on a bend, argent, lion passant sable; whence the arms of their several descendants.

† This anecdote I had from the late Mr. Lloyd of Tyddyn, whose mother was Cornish’s daughter. The anecdote of Jefferies’s smiling at Williams, on the trial of the Bishops, I heard from Lord Chancellor Hardwicke.

‡ We had another of our countrymen a very able lawyer and reporter of that time, Sir John Vaughan, Chief Justice of the Common Pleas; the ancestor of the Earls of Lisburne, and the friend and executor of the learned Selden.



SIR JOHN VAUGHAN.

*Chief Justice of the Common Pleas.  
from a Picture at Hoeswood.*

*Published Aug: 1<sup>st</sup> 1798. by Philip Yorke Esq: Wrexham.*



in descent from Einion, to distinguish him from his father, Madog gôch, then living. Madog, the son, had been nursed at Kyffyn, and thence the appellation. The male line of Maenan ended, in our times, in Sir Thomas Kyffyn Knight, whose three daughters, coheiresses, were married, Elizabeth to William John Lenthal Esquire, descended from the Speaker of his name; Anne to the Reverend John Wynn, the second son of Maesyneuadd; Ermine to Richard Hughes Kenrick (the younger) Esquire, of Nantclwyd.

The Kyffyns<sup>y</sup> of Bodfach ended in an heiress, Elizabeth, daughter of William Kyffyn, married to Adam Price of Glan-Miheli; and the heiress of the Prices to the late Bell Lloyd Esquire of Pontruffudd. Glascoed<sup>z</sup> also

Mr. Vaughan, in his *Antiquities Revived*, tells us, "That the illegitimate lines of the Princes of Wales were not generally tolerated to bear their father's arms; and if permitted, yet not without difference, as may be observed," says he, "in the arms of Dafydd gôch, the natural son of Dafydd, Lord of Denbigh, and in those of Einion and Cynrig, twins, the natural sons of Madog ab Maredudd, Prince of Powys."

<sup>y</sup> Kyffyn is nearly the same in sound, but exactly the same in signification, with Confine, and every place of that name is always near some boundary.

<sup>z</sup> Maurice Kyffyn of this house, in 1588, translated Terence's *Andria* into English, and Bishop Jewel's *Apologia Ecclesiæ Anglicanæ* into excellent Welsh, in 1595.

ended in an heiress, Margaret,<sup>a</sup> daughter of Watkin Kyf-fyn, married to Sir William Williams, Speaker<sup>b</sup> of the House of Commons in the two last short Parliaments of

<sup>a</sup> Williams, on one of his Welsh circuits, danced with this lady, and got her leave to propose himself to her father: \* “And what have you,” said the old gentleman pretty roughly to him? “I have, Sir,” says Williams, “a *tongue* and a *gown*.” He obtained the lady, and founded the flourishing families of Wynnstay, Penbedw, and Bodlewyddan.

*Cedant arma togæ, concedant omnia linguæ.*

<sup>b</sup> The Speaker had licensed the votes, which had in them matters of scandal relating to some Lords, (Dangerfield’s Narrative of the male-tub plot) so an information was brought against him in the King’s Bench; he was found guilty and fined ten thousand pounds, of which he paid eight. “This was driven against him” says Burnet, “by the Duke of York’s party, on purpose to cut off the thoughts of another parliament, since it was not to be supposed, that any House of Commons could bear the punishment of their Speaker for obeying their own orders.” Sir William continued the practice of the law, and to great profit, throughout his life, and I had an opinion of his (which as a curiosity I gave to my Lord Chief Justice Kenyon) after he had left the Speaker’s † Chair and the Solicitor Generalship. Pemberton, who had been Chief of both Benches, had done the same; and his opinion is also to the same case. The late Chancellor, Charles Yorke, had so much respect to the memory of the latter, that he repaired his monument, then in decay, in Highgate Chapel.

\* Her father in some pedigrees is called John Owain Walsingham; I conclude, as being Secretary to the Great Minister of that name. I remember, Mr. Roberts of Chester, Secretary to Mr. Pelham, was called Pelham Roberts.

† We had three of our countrymen, not distant neighbours, Speakers of the House of Commons, within a short time of each other; Williams, Trevor, and Hanmer. The last was a stiff man;

*“Not all were flowers, when pompous Hanmer spoke.”*

Sir Thomas Hanmer left no family: He had married an old woman for love, and a young one for money, and was not very fortunate in either of them. His epitaph by Dr. Freind, Master of Westminster School, was composed in Sir Thomas’s life time, and was found in his edition of Shakespeare after his death, and thence supposed to have had his approbation, and was accordingly put on his monument. *Ob.* 1746.



SIR JOHN TREVOR.

*Master of the Rolls, and Speaker of the House of Commons.*

*From a Picture at Brynkinalt.*



Charles the Second, and Solicitor General to his brother James. To the latter office he was raised in the room of Powys, who had succeeded Sawyer as Attorney General, and for the same purpose, the trial and conviction of the Bishops. Williams used much pains without effect; and on their Lordships' acquittal, there was a great shout in the Hall. Jefferies, then sitting in the Court of Chancery, being told the reason, was observed to put his face in his nosegay to hide a smile, and as if to say, "Mr. Solicitor! I keep my seal;" for he knew it had been promised to Williams, had he carried that cause. Sir William was the son of Hugh Williams, Doctor of Divinity, of Nantanog in Anglesey, a younger branch of the family of Chwaen (descended from Cadrodd hardd, or the handsome, the brother of Nefydd hardd, the Tribe) by Emma Dolben, niece to Bishop<sup>c</sup> Dolben of Bangor. Sir William was of Jesus, Oxford; removed to Gray's Inn; from thence was called to the Bar, and became Recorder of Chester; which city he represented in two Parliaments, when he appeared in opposition, and a warm exclusionist.

<sup>c</sup> Dolben was of the family of Segroit, where he was born. He became Vicar of Hackney, which he resigned on his promotion to the Bishopric of Bangor. He died in November 1633 at his Palace in Shoe-lane, and was buried in the Chancel of Hackney church, where is his monument with the Arms of the See of Bangor, empaling his own of Dolben.

He sat afterwards for the borough of Beaumaris, and the county of Carnarvon, and died at his chambers in Gray's-Inn in July 1700, at the age of sixty-six, and lies buried at Llansilin in Denbighshire. He left two sons; the elder, Sir William Williams, was grandfather by his third son, Richard, to Watkin Williams Esquire of Penbedw; and great grandfather by his eldest son Sir Watkin Williams Wynn of Wynnstay, to the present gentleman of that place. The Speaker's younger son, John, was an eminent provincial lawyer, practised at Chester, and was great grandfather to the present Sir John Williams of Bodlewyddan.

The Maurices of Lloran descend from Einion. They are represented in Edward Maurice Corbet Esquire of Ynysymaengwyn, an estate he inherits in right of his maternal grandmother, a Corbet, the heiress of the place. And here we have an instance of gavelkind; the younger brother inheriting the family house. Jeuaf ab Cyhelyn ab Rhûn ab Einion efell, who died in 1242, made this disposition of his estates; Lloran to Madog Gôch, his elder son, and Llwynymaen, the paternal inheritance, to Jeuaf fychan the younger. The house of Lloran was rebuilt in 1230, as we learn from some Welsh verses, which signify, that the years from the incarnation of the Son of God were twelve hundred and three tens, when Cyhelyn

founded an huge and high house of wood and stone: "He erected," says the Bard, "on the Banks of Barrog, an house that will outstand the world: Let songs be sung to the amiable Chief in the halls of Lloran."

From Einion were descended the Tanads<sup>d</sup> of Abertanad: Rhÿs Tanad died in 1661, having had by his wife, Margaret, the sister of the memorable Sir John Owen, five sons and six daughters, whereof six survived him; two sons and four daughters. Owen Tanad, the younger of the sons, and the last heir male of the Tanads, died in 1668, in his eighteenth year, and in default of issue to the elder sisters he was succeeded by his youngest, Susannah: She married Colonel Sydney Godolphin, Governor of the Islands and Garrison of Scilly, and Auditor of North Wales. They had issue one son, Tanad Godolphin, and five daughters. The son died of a fever in Flanders, before he was of age, and when he had served seven campaigns;

*Dum numerat palmas, credidit esse senem.*

The first, third, fourth, and fifth daughter, died unmarried, and the second, Mary, had the inheritance:

<sup>d</sup>They took their name from the river Tanad which falls into the Vyrnyw, near their seat at Abertanad, for the same reason, as the Mostyns, the Glynnns, Erddigs, Sontleys &c. &c. to save the redundancy of Aps.

She married Dr. Godolphin, Provost of Eton, and Dean of St. Paul's, and brother to the Treasurer. They had issue, the last Lord Godolphin and the late Mrs. Owen of Porkington. Lord Godolphin had no family, and gave those estates by will to Lord Francis Osborne, second son of his Grace the Duke of Leeds. Mrs. Owen left two daughters; the elder of Porkington married to Owen Ormsby Esquire, by whom she has a daughter, the right heir and lineal descendant of Abertanad.

The Tanads of Blodwel descended also from Einion. The heiress of the house, Jane, married John Mathews of Court; and the heiress of the Mathewses, Ursula, married Sir John Bridgeman, grandson to the Keeper, Sir Orlando, and Ancestor to the present Lord Bradford, who enjoys the estate.

The Robertses of Llangedwyn descended from Einion: The heiress, Catharine, daughter of Maurice Robert of Llangedwyn, married Owen Vaughan of Llwydiarth; and these estates, with those of the Vaughans of Caergai and Glanllynn, (who had married the heiress of Llwydiarth and Llangedwyn) united in Anne, daughter to William Vaughan, who left them to her husband, Sir Watkin Williams Wynn of Wynnstay; and they remain in his grandson, the present gentleman of that place.



SIR ORLANDO BRIDGEMAN.

*Lord Keeper.*

*From a Picture at Chirk Castle*



The Merediths of Glantanad were of the race of Einion. Margaret, the daughter and heiress of Andrew Meredith, married Edward Thelwal of Plasyward; and the estate was again conveyed by marriage, through the great heiress of that house, to Sir William Williams, the eldest son of the Speaker, and belongs to Wynnstay.

The Lloyds of Aston descended from Einion. The heiress of the house, Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Lloyd, married Foulke Lloyd of Foxhall, or the hall of Foulke, and was great grandmother to the Reverend John Robert Lloyd, Rector of Whittington and Sylattyn, both in his advowson, the present possessor of Aston. The name of the Foxhall family was Rosindale, when <sup>A. D.</sup> they came first from the north. To a younger branch, <sup>1297.</sup> settled at Denbigh, we owe our learned countryman, Humphrey Llwyd. He was of Brazen-nose, Oxford, studied Physic, and lived as family Physician in the house of the last Earl of Arundel of the name of Fitzalan, the Chancellor of that University. He sat in Parliament for his native town of Denbigh, and died <sup>A. D.</sup> there in the forty-first year of his age, and was buried <sup>1568.</sup> in the parish church with a coarse monument, a dry epitaph, and a psalm tune under it. He made the map of England for his friend, Ortelius, to whom he dedicates his *Commentariolum Britanniae*, and his *Epistle De Monâ*

Druidum Insulá, antiquitati suæ restitutâ. He left a Chronicon Walliæ a rege Cadwaladero, and the History of Cambria, now called Wales, in MS. He printed a Latin paper De Armamentario Romano, and turned some Medical Treatises from Latin into English. He collected many curious books for Lord Lumley, (whose sister he married) which form at this time a valuable part of the Library in the British Museum. One of his sons was settled at Cheam in Surry, whose great grandson, Robert Lloyd, was Rector of St. Paul's, Covent Garden, and contended, but without effect, for the Barony of Lumley.

From Einion were the Lloyds of Bodlith. The heiress of that house married Foulk Myddelton, the eighth son of the Governor, Richard Myddelton of Denbigh; and the heiress of the Myddeltons married Thomas Meredith Esquire of Pentrebychan, the grandfather to the present gentleman, Richard Meredith Esquire of that place.

The Vaughans of Golden-grove, Carmarthenshire, were descended from Einion. John Vaughan, the son of Walter Vaughan of this house, served under Walter, Earl of Essex, Lord Deputy of Ireland, and was knighted by him for his services in that country; was made Comptroller of the house-hold to Prince Charles, and by



HUMPHREY LLWYD.

*From a Picture at Aston.*

*Published Aug. 1. 1798. by Philip Yorke Esq. Wrexham.*



James the First created Lord Vaughan of Molingar, and Earl of Carbury in that kingdom. He married Margaret, daughter of Sir Gelly Meyrick, (who suffered in Essex's rebellion) and was succeeded by his son, Richard. Richard was made Knight of the Bath at the Coronation of Charles the First, who created him Baron of Emlyn in England; and after the Restoration was Lord President of the Marches in Wales, and a Privy Counsellor. His son, Lord Vaughan, who married Rachel, the coheiress of the virtuous Southampton, died without issue before his father. She became after the distinguished wife and pious widow of Lord Russel.

From Owain Brogyntyn, Lord of Dinmael and Eder-nion, the natural son of Madog, the son of Maredudd, the son of Bleddyn, the founder of the Tribe, descended the Rhÿses of Rûg. The heiress of the house, Margaret, married Piers Salesbury of Bachymbyd, a younger son of Lleweni. Through the Salesburys, the Pughs of Mathafarn, the Prices of Gogerthan, (from the alliance of his grandmother of Nannau with the first house) it now belongs to that spirited good Officer, Captain Edward Williames Vaughan Salesbury of the Guards.

From Brogyntyn were the Maësmors of Maësmor:°

° In the pedigree of this house Robert ab Gruffudd, father of Robert Wynn, marries Margaret Salesbury of Lluesog, and has by her fifteen

Their heiress, Catharine, married Peter Morris Esquire of Hafod y maidd, and conveyed the estate into that family, but the male line was continued in Nicholas, her first cousin, and is still extant.

The Lloyds of Dôlglessyn are from Brogyntyn: Their property was not long since alienated to Rûg, to which it is contiguous.

The Hugheses of Gwerclas descended from Brogyntyn:<sup>f</sup> Humphrey Hughes Esquire, of that place, living in 1681, was twelfth in descent from Owain. The heiress of the Hugheses married the Lloyds, the present possessors.

children; and it is whimsical to observe the surnames which these adopted, so different from their parents and from each other: Robert Wynn, Ieuan Wynn, Dafydd Llwyd, Morys and Hugh Maesmawr, Sir Rhÿs Wynn, John Llwyd, Gwenhwyfar Llwyd, Lowri, Angharad Wenn, Margaret Wenn, Gwen Llwyd.

<sup>f</sup> Owain Brogyntyn was the illegitimate son of Madog ab Maredudd by a daughter of the Maer du, or the black Mayor, of Rûg in Edernion. His father granted to him that Lordship, with the honor of Dinmael. Owain had three sons, Gruffudd, Bleddyn and Iorwerth; Gruffudd, the elder, had one moiety of Edernion, Iorwerth the other, and Bleddyn had Dinmael. Gruffudd ab Owain ab Bleddyn ab Owain Brogyntyn assigned over the Royalty of the Lordship of Dinmael to Lacy, Earl of Lincoln; that was, all felonies except forfeitures. Prior to this, malefactors were usually executed at a place called Bryn y Crogwr, or the hangman's hill, in Maesmor. The children of Gruffudd ab Owain aforesaid were, Owain hên, Llywelyn Offeiriad, Hywel, and a daughter, Generis, who ended her life in retirement at a place since called Muriau Generis in Dwyfaen. The said

From Cadwgan, the second son of the founder of the Tribe, descend the Nanneys of Nannau. The elder daughter and heiress of the last of the male line, Hugh Nanney, married William Vaughan Esquire of Corsygedol; but no issue remaining from this match, the estate hath devolved to Sir Robert Williames Vaughan, the grandson of the twin-sister of his great aunt Mrs. Vaughan. Sir Robert has improved the place (in itself distinguished) by a good family mansion, which is said to have one of the highest situations, of a gentleman's house, in Great Britain.

Llywelyn Offeiriad, or the Priest, in a disagreement with his brothers, Owain hên and Hywel, sold his lands to the Earl of Lincoln, and accepted a grant from the Earl of thirteen pounds of land for the yearly rent of thirteen pair of gloves, which parcels of land his descendants still possess in the quality of Freeholders. Owain Brogyntyn married, first, Jonet, the daughter of Hywel ab Madog ab Idnerth ab Cadwgan ab Athelstan Glodrudd, the fifth Royal Tribe, and had no issue by her. He married, secondly, Marred, or Margaret, the daughter of Einion ab Seisyllt of Mathafarn, by whom he had Gruffudd, who married Jonet, daughter of Sir William Say, Knight. From Gruffudd was descended Madog of Hendwr, father of Dafydd, father of Gwion Llwyd, &c. &c. Gwion Lloyd Esquire of Hendwr, in my memory, left Edernion, and bought and settled himself at the lower Gwersyllt, since purchased by my worthy old friend, John Cawley Humberston Cawley Esquire. Near Porkington, and far from his own country, is a singular entrenchment, called Castle Brogyntyn, a fort belonging to Owain Brogyntyn. His dagger and cup are preserved at Rûg. The latter perhaps hath been most murderous.

The Wythans of Trewythan descended from Cadwgan. The line ended in an heiress, Mary, married to Bowen Jones Esquire of Pen yr allt gôch, and the issue of the match, the Reverend Evan Jones,<sup>s</sup> is the present possessor of Trewythan.

From Cadwgan come the Lloyds of Cwmm bychan, still extant. A younger brother of the house was settled, early in this century, at Llanarmon in Yale, and was father to my worthy friend, that excellent historian and Welsh antiquary, the late Reverend John Lloyd<sup>h</sup> of Caerwis.

The Protector Cromwel was descended from Cadwgan. The family name was anciently Williams: Morgan Williams of Nantchurch in Cardiganshire married the sister of Thomas Cromwel, the Minister Earl of Essex, and was succeeded by his son, Sir Richard Cromwel of Hinchingbroke in Huntingdonshire, who first assumed the name of Cromwel: He was father to Sir Henry Cromwel, the grandfather by his second son Robert, of Oliver the Protector. I know nothing of Oliver's partialities to Wales; but he encouraged a small octavo of the Welsh

<sup>s</sup> Mr. Jones by his lady, the sister of Mr. Alderman Combe, has four children, Wythan, Charlotte, Caroline, and Hervey Bowen.

<sup>h</sup> My friend Mr. Lloyd was usually called Blodeu; signifying, that he was the Blodeu, or flower of Llanarmon, where he had spent his younger years with his father.

Bible,<sup>i</sup> when that edition, (which from its size was thought useful) was scarce; and an act of Parliament passed for the propagation of the Gospel in North Wales. The London Polyglot Bible was produced at the same time, and Cromwel ever appears a steady friend to the Protestant<sup>k</sup> interests. I do not find, that his military occasions

<sup>i</sup> William Tyndal, our countryman, had with great cost and labour printed at Antwerp, in 1528, an incorrect impression of the New Testament in English, translated by himself. Whilst mourning the low state of his finances, which would not enable him to amend his book, it chanced that Bishop Tonsal, passing through Antwerp, thought he could do no greater service to the Catholic faith, than by buying up Tyndal's Testaments, and committing them to the flames. Tyndal received the good Prelate's money with rapture, and employed it in printing his Translation correct, which he instantly transmitted to England, where it made many proselytes. Sir Thomas More, in 1529, expressing his surprize at the frequency of these prohibited books, was answered in Council, "That it was owing to the liberal encouragement of Bishop Tonsal."—*Burnet Ref.*

<sup>k</sup> Cromwel had too signal occasions given him to shew his zeal in protecting the Protestants abroad. The Duke of Savoy raised a new persecution of the Vaudois: So Cromwel sent to Mazarin, desiring him to put a stop to that; adding, "That he knew well they had that Duke in their power, and could restrain him as they pleased; and if they did not, he must presently break with them." Mazarin objected to this as unreasonable: He promised to do good offices; but he could not be obliged to answer for the effects they might have. This did not satisfy Cromwel. So they obliged the Duke of Savoy to put a stop to that unjust fury: And Cromwel raised a great sum for the Vaudois, and sent over Morland to settle all their concerns, and to supply all their losses. There was also a tumult in Nismes, in which some disorder had been committed by the

brought him to Wales, but he might have made a friendly visit there; for in the old house at Kinmael, then belonging to Colonel Carter,<sup>1</sup> an officer in his favour, is a room called Cromwel's parlour.

Huguenots: And they, apprehending severe proceedings upon it, sent one over with great expedition to Cromwel, who sent him back to Paris in an hour's time with a very effectual letter to his Ambassador,\* requiring him either to prevail, that the matter might be passed over, or to come away immediately. Mazarin complained of this way of proceeding as too imperious; but the necessity of their affairs made him yield. Cromwel had intended a great design to begin his Kingship with, had he assumed it. He had resolved to set up a Council for the Protestant Religion, in opposition to the congregation De Propagandâ fide at Rome. He intended it should consist of seven Counsellors, and four Secretaries for different Provinces: These were the first; France, Switzerland, and the Valleys: The Palatinate and the other Calvinists were the second: Germany, the North, and Turkey, were the third; and the East and West Indies were the fourth. The Secretaries were to have five hundred pounds salary apiece, and to keep a correspondence every where, to know the state of religion all over the world, that so all designs might, by their means, be protected and assisted. They were to have a fund of 10,000l. a year at their disposal for ordinary emergencies, but to be farther supplied as occasions should require it. Chelsea College was to be made up for them, which was then an old decayed building, that had been at first raised to be a College for writers of Controversy.—*Burnet of his own time.*

<sup>1</sup> Carter, before he commenced soldier, was a draper; and marrying after the heiress of Kinmael, a Hollander, the wags said he had chosen (as well he might) the best piece of *Holland* in the country. Kinmael had more anciently belonged to the Llwyds of the tribe of Marchudd. Alice Llwyd

\*Lockhart was employed afterwards as Ambassador to France by Charles the Second, and said, "That he found, that he had nothing of that regard, that was paid him in Cromwel's time."—*Ibid.*

The Vaughans of Wengraig were descended from Cadwgan. The father of Robert Vaughan, the antiquary, married the heiress of Hengwrt, the granddaughter of Lewis Owen, the Baron,<sup>m</sup> to whom the place had belonged. The antiquary died in 1667, and by his wife, a daughter of Cemmaes, left a son Howel: Howel was succeeded by his son Robert, who married Jonet, the younger twin-daughter, but eventually the heiress of Nannau. Her son, Sir Robert Howel Vaughan, by the heiress Williames of Ystymcolwyn, left three sons; Sir Robert Williames Vaughan of Nannau, Edward Salesbury Vaughan Esquire of Rûg, and Griffith Howel Vaughan Esquire of Hengwrt. Robert, the antiquary, published a small tract by the name of *British Antiquities Revived*, dedicated to the first Sir Richard Wynn of Gwydir, which was intended to end the controversy then subsisting, respecting the primogeniture of the sons of Roderic, who on the tripartition of Wales gave the northern parts to Anarawd, the southern to Cadel, and

the heiress of the place and an old maid, leaves twenty shillings to her ghostly father, Sir John ab Ellis, the parson of Kekidog, or St. George's, the neighbouring church.

<sup>m</sup> Owen was Vice Chamberlain of North Wales, and Baron of the Exchequer at Carnarvon. "They were called at that time," says Old Sir John of Gwydir, "The lawyers of Carnarvon, the merchants of Beaumaris,

Powys to Merfyn. The South Welshmen contended that Cadell was the elder brother: This is denied with zeal and effect by Mr. Vaughan. He was intimate with Usher; and in the course of their correspondence he tells the Primate, that he had translated into English the annals of Wales, which he had sent him for his perusal, but it does not appear it was ever returned. He left in manuscript the topography of Merionethshire, a tour of Wales, and commentaries on the

and the gentlemen of Conway; and," adds the historian, "the records of the King's Court kept at Carnarvon in those days were as orderly and formally kept as those in Westminster-hall." I once passed the place where Baron Owen lost his life. "On the road," says Mr. Pennant, "near Mowddwy  
 A. D. 1555. Lewis Owen, Vice Chamberlain of North Wales and Baron of the Exchequer at Carnarvon, was cruelly murdered by a set of banditti, with which this country was over-run. After the wars of York and Lancaster multitudes of felons and outlaws inhabited this country, and established in these parts for a great length of time a race of wretches, who continued to rob, burn and murder in large bands, in defiance of the civil power; and would steal and drive whole herds of cattle in mid-day from one country to another with impunity. To put a stop to these ravages, a commission was granted to John Wynn ab Maredudd of Gwydir, (grandfather to the historian Sir John) and to Lewis Owen of Hengwrt, the Baron, in order to settle the peace of the country, and to punish all offenders against its government. In pursuance of their orders they raised a body of stout men, and on a Christmas-eve seized above fourscore outlaws and felons, on whom they held a jail delivery, and punished according to their deserts. Among them were the two sons of a woman, who very earnestly applied to Owen for the life of one of them. He refused; when the mother in a great rage told him, opening her bosom, 'These yellow breasts have given suck

Triades." He wrote notes also on Gildas Nennius, with an explanatory paraphrase on Welsh Chronology.

In the fifty-third year of his age and the thirteenth

to those, who shall wash their hands in your blood.' Revenge was determined by the surviving villains. They watched their opportunity to way-lay the Baron, as he was passing through these parts from Montgomeryshire Assizes, in the thick woods of Mowddwy, at a place called from the deed, Lliidiart y Barwn, or the Baron's gate; where they cut down several trees to cross the road and impede the passage. They then discharged on him a shower of arrows; one of which sticking in his face he took and broke. After this they attacked him with bills and javelins, and left him slain with above thirty wounds. His son-in-law, John Llwyd of Ceisgwyn, defended him to the last, but his cowardly attendants fled on the first onset. His death gave peace to the country, for most vigorous justice ensued, and the whole nest of banditti was extirpated; many fell by the hand of justice, and the rest fled never to return."

"These papers are preserved from copies made at Hengwrt by that wayward child of genius, the late Reverend Evan Evans, before that valuable collection was dissipated. This library consisted of 165 MSS. Mr. Vaughan had made an agreement with Mr. Jones of Esgeifiog, an indefatigable collector of MSS. that the survivor of them should succeed to the other's library. Jones died first, and his collection came to Hengwrt. Vaughan had made many copies of Welsh MSS. from Oxford, the Tower, and other places: What authority is due to the destruction by one Scholan of the Welsh MSS. in the Tower, I know not; nor am I given to believe it. It is certain, that in the end of Edward the First's reign many Welshmen of rank were confined in that prison, engaged in the three unsuccessful insurrections after his conquest. It is said they solicited the favour that their MSS. might be sent them out of Wales; that they were indulged in this request, and thence the Tower became the principal repository of Welsh literature.

A. D. of his reign, our founder fell by a fate, familiar to  
 1073. that period, and was murdered by his subjects in South  
 Wales. Bleddyn was just and mild in his administration,  
 and framed a system of laws on the old constitutions of  
 Moelmutius and Hywel.<sup>o</sup> Our historians condemn him  
 for receiving his crown from Edward of England, and  
 becoming tributary to that Prince; but the success of the  
 Confessor's General, Harold,<sup>p</sup> at this period over our coun-  
 trymen, left little choice in that matter. Bleddyn we are  
 told was rich: A Welsh distich<sup>q</sup> is quoted to that purpose,  
 but I understand it means no more than that he was Par-  
 amount of Powys, and that the freehold lands in that  
 principality were held under him in capite. He had four  
 wives, and issue by them all; Maredudd by his first;<sup>r</sup>

<sup>o</sup> According to Geoffry of Monmouth, Dunwallo Moelmutius was the  
 son of Cloten, Duke of Cornwall, and reigned in Britain 441 years before  
 Christ. Our Welsh Justinian, Hywel Dha, died at Rome in 948.

<sup>p</sup> Harold on his success revived the laws of Offa, that no Welshman  
 should pass that ditch, but under the loss and forfeiture of a limb. Harold  
 had built a magnificent house at Portyscydd in Monmouthshire, where he  
 entertained his Master, Edward, but which was soon after pillaged and  
 destroyed by the Welsh.

<sup>q</sup> Bleddyn ab Cynfyn bob cwys,  
 Ei hun bioedd hên Bowys.

<sup>r</sup> His first wife, Haer, was a widow; very beautiful: She was the daugh-  
 ter and heiress of Gillyn, the son of Blaidd Rhudd, or the bloody  
 Wolf, of Gêst in Efonydd. By Cynfyn hirdref, her first husband, she was

Cadwgan and Llywarch by the second; Madog and Ririd by the third; and Iorwerth by the last.

grandmother to Ririd, who took the appellation of Blaidd, or the wolf, in descent from his ancestor, Blaidd rhudd, above mentioned. The famous Hywel y pedolau was the son of Gwenllïan, daughter to Ririd flaidd. There is a Welsh poem extant of Cynddelw, Briddydd mawr, the great Bard, who flourished about the year 1160, returning thanks to Ririd for a fine sword, with which he had presented him.



## JESTYN AB GWRGANT.

JESTYN AB GWRGANT, the fourth Royal Tribe, was Lord of Glamorgan.<sup>s</sup> He descended in the twenty-ninth generation from our great Caractacus;<sup>t</sup> a sorry slip from such a stock.

The Silurian Prince had defended his country from foreign enemies; his descendant introduced them to enslave it. Fitzhamon divided his conquest (as hath been before observed) among his twelve Knights, and Jestyn fell a just sacrifice to his own treachery and ingratitude; for Rhÿs had raised him to a Royal Tribe.

Of his descendants I find none extant in the male line. The Myttleys of Myttley ended in the Bromleys, and an heiress of the former house was ancestress to the Lord Chancellor Bromley.

<sup>s</sup> Ultima nunc dicenda venit Morgania tellus,  
Pulchra situ, frugumque ferax et amæna locorum:  
Regulus hanc tenuit titulo Jestinus avito  
Gurganti proles, genus alto e sanguine Cambri;  
Quem nimis incautum, nimis in sua fata ruentem,  
Perfidus impellit scelerosis artibus Eynon,  
In proprium regem sine re, sine more, rebellem.—*Pentarchia.*

<sup>t</sup> After the captivity of Caractacus the Romans were often defeated by the single state of the Silures. *Romanosque post ejus captivitatem, ab una tantum Silurum civitate sæpius victos et profigatos.*—Tacit.

The Joneses of Dôl in Edernion descended from a Receiver General of North Wales of this tribe. The last of the family was settled at Llanrhaiadr Dyffryn Clwyd, died early in this century, and was buried in the Parish Church with much monumental extravagance. His figure in marble is recumbent at full length in a flowing gown and great Parian periwig, in the bad funebrial fashion of that period. The Newtons of Haethley, extinct in the male line, were of this Tribe. Of this house was the lady of the late Thomas Meredith Esquire of Pentre bychan, who was Chamberlain and Keeper of the King's Original Seal for the counties of Denbigh and Montgomery, (thence called Baron) and father of Richard Meredith the present gentleman of Pentre bychan, who succeeded him in that office. This honor hath been in the Meredith family for some generations.



## ATHELSTAN GLODRYDD.

OF this Regulus, the founder of the fifth Royal Tribe, I learn little, but that his country lay between the Wye and Severn, and was anciently called Ferlis: It was independent of the Princes of South Wales. He was the son of Cyhelyn ab Ifor, by Rhiengar, the daughter and heiress of Grono ab Tewdwr Trevor, and from his mother inherited the Earldom of Hereford. He  
A. D. 933. was godson to the Saxon King, Athelstan, who was, it seems, no kind gossip; for at Glodrydd's baptism<sup>w</sup> he marched a strong army against Hereford, and imposed on the country a yearly tribute of twenty pounds

<sup>w</sup> The uncertainty of dates is very perplexing. Mr. Robert Vaughan says, "That Gruffudd ab Cynan, Rhys ab Tewdwr, and Bleddyn ab Cynfyn, being the only Royal Tribes then existing, founded two more." As far as this relates to Jestyn ab Gwrgant, the matter may be clear, for these four may be said to have been cotemporaries about the year 1073, although Gruffudd at that time had not attained the throne; but the honor of representing the fifth Royal Tribe must have been given to the sons of Athelstan Glodrydd in the name of their father then deceased; for our Chroniclers date his birth, as above, in the year 933. "By Llwyth, or tribe, was meant," says Mr Llwyd of the Museum, "the descendants from such a person, and not the person himself; so the twelve sons of Jacob are called the twelve tribes of Israel, because from them sprang the twelve tribes of Israel; and our tribes must be considered in the same sense as Moses called the twelve sons of Jacob tribes, because they represented their posterity, the tribes."

in gold, three hundred pounds in silver, and a fine of two thousand five hundred cattle, with a certain number of hounds and hawks.<sup>w</sup>

Of the descendants of Glodrydd were the Powels of Worthyn. The male line of this house hath lately become extinct in John Powel Esquire, and the estate and lordship of Worthyn hath devolved to John Kynaston Powel Esquire of Hardwick in right of his mother, the sister in half blood to the last gentleman of Worthyn. The Powels were anciently seated at Henllan in Denbighshire, and in the Seventh Henry's time their ancestor, Madog, married Jane, daughter of Dafydd Myddelton of Gwaunynog, the gentleman who obtained his wife (the Done) so roughly, as before related.

The Powels of Ednop, now extinct, were of this Tribe. Powel, the Poet, of this house dedicates his *Pentarchia* to Charles the First, then Prince of Wales, but it does not appear it was ever printed. He has taken great liberties with prosody and orthography; there are however many good lines, and he is accurate in his facts.

<sup>w</sup> This arbitrary tribute, extorted from the Welsh while under the influence of power, was no longer regarded, than while the Kings of England had the means of enforcing its observance. Edgar, the nephew of Athelstan and son of his brother Edmund, converted into a present of wolves' heads the tribute paid by the Welsh in gold and silver &c. originally imposed on them by Athelstan. Edgar was rowed on the Dee by eight tributary petty Princes.

He prefaces it modestly enough in the following verses;

*Non ita sum gnarus, nec in arte peritus heraldâ  
Singula ut innumerem, nec enim mihi tanta facultas:  
Quod potui feci, quod restat suppleat alter  
Doctior, et nostris faveat non invidus ausis.*

I cannot find when he died, or more in relation to him. Could we reach family authorities, (certainly abundant) much would be known on the subject in general, and I trust as a good Welshman, that the time may come when that will be the case.

The Owenses of Rhiw saeson descended from Glodrydd: The male line ended in Corbet Owens Esquire, and his sister Anne married Price Maurice Esquire of Lloran, and was mother of Edward Maurice\* Esquire of Ynys y maengwyn, an estate he possesses in virtue of the marriage of Anne Corbet, the heiress, to Ethelystan Owens Esquire of Rhiw saeson, his mother's father.

The Pryces of Newtown, Bodfach, and Glan Miheli, descended from Glodrydd: They were settled at the first place about the time of Henry the Sixth, and the two last families were branches of Newtown. Their ancestor, Rhÿs, was an Esquire of the Body to Edward the Fourth. The male line ended in Sir Edward

\* In the transactions of the Society for the encouragement of Arts is an account of Mr. Corbet's improvement of many hundred acres at Ynys y maengwyn, for which he was presented with a gold medal.

Manley Pryce, who died a bachelor some few years since. His father, Sir John Powel Pryce, married a Manley of Manley. This gentleman was accustomed to follow his hounds many years after he had totally lost his sight, and would run the risk of some dangerous leaps. The grandfather (Sir John Pryce) to the last Baronet was a gentleman of worth, but of strange singularities. He married three wives; his first, a Powel, the granddaughter of Sir John Powel, one of the Justices of the King's bench, (in the reign of James the Second) who eminently signalized his integrity and resolution in the case of the seven Bishops. To the memory of his second wife, a Morris, Sir John Pryce wrote an elegy of a thousand lines, still extant; in which he affirms, that with his latest breath he would *lisp* Maria's name. But he forgot his vow, and was soon smitten with the charms of a widow Jones. This lady would not give her hand to Sir John until he had entombed her predecessors, who had, till that time, lain in state and chemical<sup>y</sup> preparations in his bedchamber. He survived this wife also, and on her death writes to Bridget Bostock,<sup>z</sup>

*John*  
~~Martin~~

<sup>y</sup> We had a later instance in ~~Martin~~ Vanbutchel's wife, (the spring-band and garter man) pickled by William Hunter, and more highly preserved by an epitaph of great humour and of fine taste and latinity, attributed to the first perhaps of our modern Physicians.

<sup>z</sup> During this season of miracles worked by Bridget Bostock of Cheshire, who healed all diseases by prayer, faith, and an embrocation of fasting

the Cheshire Pythoness, to this purpose; "Having received information by repeated advices, both public and private, that you have of late performed many wonderful cures, even where the best physicians have failed; and that the means used appear to be very inadequate to the effects produced, I cannot but look upon you as an extraordinary and highly favoured person. And why may not the same most merciful God, who enables you to restore sight to the blind, hearing to the deaf, and strength to the lame, also enable you to raise the dead to life? Now having lately lost a wife, whom I most tenderly loved, my children an excellent stepmother, and our acquaintances a very dear and valuable friend, you will lay us all under the highest obligations; and I earnestly entreat you, for God Almighty's sake, that you will put up your petitions to the throne of grace on our behalf, that the deceased may be restored to us, and the late Dame Eleanor Pryce be raised from the dead. If your personal appearance appears to you to be necessary, I will send my coach and six with proper servants to wait on you hither, whenever you please to appoint. Recompence of any kind that you could propose, would be made with the utmost gratitude; but I wish the bare mention of it is not offensive to both God and you."

spittle, multitudes resorted to her from all parts, and kept her salival glands in full employ.—*Pennant*.

# APPENDIX.

## No. I.

*William Morgan, Bishop of Saint Asaph, to Sir John Wynn of Gwydir.*

SALUTEM IN C.HRO.

Y<sup>O</sup>URE motyves that I shold confyrme youre Lease upon the Rectorye of Llan Rŵst are dyverse, vz.

1. Youre greeffe to mysse, havynge neaver fayled before of anie attempte.

2. That you had rather forgoo 100l. landes a yeare.

3. That the rent reserved ys as much as the Rectorye ys worth.

4. That youe purchased the Lease deere.

5. That y<sup>e</sup>. world may thynke youre love to me warde unkyndlye rewarded.

6. That others, by my example, wyll lesse esteme youe.

7. That youe hope to finde me such to youe, as youe are to me.

8. That the adioynng of Tybrith did cost you much.

9. My sundrie promysse that youre Lease shold be the fyrst. And one thyng moveth me agaynst all these, vz. my conscience, w<sup>ch</sup>. assureth me that youre request ys such, that in grauntyng yt I shold prove my selfe an dishonest, unconscionable and irreligious man; ye a sacrilegiouse robber of my church, a perfydiouse spoyler of my Diocesse, and an unnaturall hyndrer of preachers and good scholers;—the consyderatione whereof wold be a contynual terror and torment to my conscience. And to com to youre motyve reasons:

1. I pray God that youre greeffe of myssynge be not Achab's greeffe for Naboth's vineyard.

2. 100l. landes are worth 200l. tyth.

3. I credyble heare that Rectorye to be worth twyse the rent reserved; the w<sup>ch</sup>. youre seconde reason confyrmeth.

4. Youre 4 reason confyrmeth the same; for youe wold not purchase deere a Lease worth lytle more then the rent.

5. Youe have shewed to me much kyndnesse, but no unhonest kyndnesse; neather do I ever meane to denie youe in youre honest requestes.

6. Youe shall not be the better esteemed by gettynge ungodleye requestes, but worse thought of; for to fayle of badd attemptes ys no shame, but to relynquysh them wylbe greate credyt.

7. Youe shall finde me, such as I desyre to finde youe, in omnibus licitis et honestis, youre assured.

8. I do not counte the adioynyng of Tybrith to be eather hurtfull or beneficiall to me or the church.

9. My promysse was and ys, that I wyll do nothing for anie subiect w<sup>ch</sup>. I wyll nott do for youe, and that I wyll not confyrme anie such Lease as youre's before youre's. Neather am I nowe mynded to confyrme anie lease at all. But the Chaptre do meane to revyve one lyff in a lease of theare's.

Amongest other youre kyndnesses, youe gave good testymonie of me. I pray youe lette me continewe worthie of yt. So manie chypps have bene allreadye taken from the church, that yt ys readye to fall. God hath blessed youe so well, that youe are bownde rather to helpe hys poore church then to hynder yt.

Thus w<sup>th</sup>. my hartiest commendationes to youre selfe and good Mystres Wyn, I reast

Eveare youre owne in y<sup>e</sup>. Lorde,

*Willm. Asaphen.*

I knowe of syxe or seaven suters for confyrmationes of Leases upon presentatyve benefyces, w<sup>ch</sup>. meane to brynge the landes of Pryvye Counsellers, yff not Hys Maiestye's owne lande. And at the next Parliament, I look to be layde to. But I trust y<sup>t</sup>. God wyll defende me and hys church.

W. A.

One wold open the doore for all the reaste.

[To the Right Wor. his  
veary lovyng Frend,  
John Wyn of Gwedur,  
Esquier.]

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No. II.

*Answer to the Above.*

**H**OMINIBUS ingratis loquimini, lapides. The sower went out to sowe; and some of his seede fell in stonie ground, where hitt wythered, because hitt could take noe roote. The seede was good, but the land nought. I may justly say soe by you. I have in all shewed my selfe your ffreinde, in soe much as yf I had not pointed you the waye with my finger (whereof I have yett good testimonye) you had beene styll Vycar of Llanrhayder. You pleade conscience when you should geve, and make no bones to receave curtesie of your ffreinds. But I appeale to him that searcheth the conscience of all men, whether you have used me well, and whether hitt be conscience (w<sup>ch</sup>. you ever have in your mouth) be the sole hinderance of my request. I wyll avowe and justifie hitt befor the greatest Dyvyns in England, that it hath beene, nowe ys, and ever wylbe, that a man may w<sup>th</sup>. a salfe conscience be farmour of a lyvinge, payeing in effect for the same as much as hitt ys woorth; and soe ys this, surmyse you the value to be as you layst. Nether was the losse of the thyng that I regard a dodkyn, but your unkinde dealinge. Hitt shall lesen me to expect noe sweete fruite of a sower stocke. Your verball love I esteeme as nothinge; and I make noe doubt (w<sup>th</sup> God's good favour) to lyve to be able to pleasure you, as

much as you shall me, et é contrá. You byd me thanke God for his meny benefytts towards me. God graunt me the grace ever soe to doe. In truth, I did much thanke Him in mynde to see you preferred to the place you are in, as yf you had beene my owne brother; but that I recall, for I never expect good wyll of you, nor good torne by you.

*John Wyn,*  
of Gwyder.

Gwyder, the house that  
did you and your's good.  
24th February, 1603.

[To the Reverend Father, The  
Lord Bussshop of St. Asaphe]

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No. III.

*Sir John Wynn to Mr. Martyn.*

MR. MARTYN,

SIR,

NO greefe to the greefe of unkyndnes: They rewarded me yll for good to the great dyscomfort of my sole. I may say so, and justly complaen unto you of my L. of St. Asaphe, who (besydes what hys ancestors receved by myen) ys dyversly, and in great matters, behouldynge unto me, whereof (beynge schooled by hys late letter, of w<sup>ch</sup>. I send you a trew coppy) thoghe I expect no rent, yett yt easethe my wronged mynd muche, to lay open hys hard dealyngs towards me, and my benefyts towards hym, befor you, who are not ignorant that I delyver but a truethe, in most of them havynge been an ey wytnes.

Hyt squarethe therfor w<sup>th</sup>. a good method in a narration to begyn w<sup>th</sup>. my deserts, w<sup>ch</sup>. I wyll run over breefly; w<sup>ch</sup>. I wold have you to put hym in mynd of: 1. in that he protested to hys late servant Tho. Vaghan, that he remmbred no more therof, then that I had lent hym my geldyngs to go to Llandda, and had sent hym a fatt oxen att hys fyrst comynge to St. Assaphe. W<sup>ch</sup>. ys to strayne a gnatt, and swallow a camell.

Fyrst, I let hym have a Lease uppon hys farme of Wybernant, parte of the township of Doluthelan for forty years, for forty poundes in money. The farme he hathe sett att the yerly rent of twenty foure poundes per ann: and yeldethe of the Kyng's rent viijs. too pence yerly, as farre as I remember.

In measuryng the sayd farme w<sup>th</sup>. my farme of Penannen, I let hym have, in Pant yr Helygloyn, land to the valew of iijl. yerly; for w<sup>ch</sup>. my uncle Owen Wyn reprooved me muche.

I bare the hatred of Jeuan M<sup>r</sup>dythe, and hys nephew Ed. Morice, the lawyer, duryng his lyfe; for that I was a daysman, and agaenst hym; I mean, Jeuan M<sup>r</sup>dythe, and appointed my frends commysysoners agaenst hym.

Was hyt not I that fyrst delt w<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Boyer to make hym Bushopp, and made the bargaen, S<sup>r</sup>? Mr. Boyer was nether knowen to hym, nor he to Mr. Boyer; ergo, yf that had not beene, he had contynued styll Vycar of Llan Rhayder. I know you do not forgett what was obiected against hym and hys wyf to stopp his last translation, and how that my certyfycatt and my frends quitted hym of that imputation, and so made hym prevayle; for the wh<sup>ch</sup>. both they and I wear worse thoght of by those we have good cause hyghly to respect.

I labored, as yf hit had had beene to save the lyf of on of my chyldren, to end the cause of dylapidations between hym and my coosin Dd. Holland; knowynge hit wold have beene his great hynderance to be so matched att first dashe. How sufficyent a man, how well ffrended, and what a toothe-man in hys suets my cousin Holland ys, every man that knowethe hym, knowethe that also.

My L. of St. Assaphe I knew to be but poore (hys translation havynge stood him in muche) yett wylfull and heddy to run into law suets; therefore I was as muche trobled to reclaeme hym to reson and consyderation of hys owen estate as I was to bringe the adverse part to reson and conformity. My L. Bushopp's cheefe lyvyng was the tenthe of the Paryshe of Abergele, where my coosin Holland comandeth absolutely. Yf they had

gone to suet of law, he would so have wronged hym in the gatherynge of the tythe, as hit shold have beene lyttell worthe unto hym. My self excepted, was ther on Jent. in the contrey wold once have shewed hym self for hym agaenst my coosin Holland? and that knew he well. But my L. can make use of Jent. when they serve hys torne, and after decarde them upon pretence of consyence; w<sup>ch</sup>. may appere by the coppye of hys letter unto me, whereof, I avowe on my credyt this ys the trew coppye. Thus much touchynge that matter of my desert; and now touchynge my request.

Mr. Sharp, my L. Chancelor's Chaplen beyng by hys L. collated parson of Llanrŵst, leased hys benefyce to on Rob<sup>t</sup>. Gwyn of Chester, who appointed a ffrend of myen, on Rob<sup>t</sup>. Vaughan, brother to my brother Tho. Vaughan, his under farmor. Doctor Elice, somtyme a great comander in theese quarters, in favor of Doctor Meryke (who rewarded him w<sup>th</sup>. a township of teythe whear his mansyon house was in 'Spytty) dyd geeve lev to dysmember the parsonadge of Llanrŵst of Tybri the tythe, and to joyne hit to Corwen. Whearuppon, pyttyng to see Llanrŵst churche dysmembered by unlawfull practyse, acqueanted my L. of S<sup>t</sup>. Assaphe, that I ment to stand for the right of Llanrŵst agaenst Doctor Meryke, w<sup>th</sup>. an intent to do more for that churche, as I then made knowen to my L. The suet prooved, by Doctor Meryke's weywardnes and hope in his fautors, more chardgeable and troblesom then was expected. Wheruppon I eftsons acquainted my L. Bushop, that I ment to buy Robt. Gwyn's lease into my hands, that, surrendringe hit, Mr. Sharp (in consyderation of my great chardge in the suet) myght grant me a lease of the lyvyng for iij lyves, the only mean in som part to quit my chardge; w<sup>ch</sup>. he promysed me to confyrme, and that hit should be the fyrst of all other that should receve confyrmination. Havyng to my chardge and troble compased Robt. Gwyn's lease of 10 years, and by surrender of the same gott a new lease of thre lyves of Mr. Sharp, I sent hyt to be shewed my L. by my servant W<sup>m</sup>. Lloyd; who then seemed to myslyke hit, and answered doutfully touchynge the confyrmination, w<sup>th</sup>. all chidd Mr. Sharp in suche sort, as givynge cause to have my lease new made, he made me pay 10l. more then was att fyrst, by reson my L. Bushop

had chidd hym. In end, hearynge of a Chapter appointed for the confirmation of the other leases, I sent myen also by my son Mostyn, and my letter to my L. the contents whearof you shall fynd in my Lord's answer. To w<sup>ch</sup>. I receved this answer, w<sup>ch</sup>. whether hit be fyttynge my desert ys your's to judge, as also to expostulat w<sup>ch</sup>. hym, beynge oure ffrend, common to us bothe.

I am not of nature to put up wronge ; for as I have studyed for hys good, and wrought the same, so lett my L. be assured of me as bytter an enemye (yf he dryve me to hit) as ever I was a stedfast ffrend ; nether ys he com to that heyght, or wantethe enemyes, that he may say, Major sum, quám cui possit fortuna nocere. For as Honores mutant mores, so mores mutant honores. I am ashamed for hym, that he hathe geeven herby cause to his enemyes and myen to descant of his ungrate dysposition ever aggravated towards hym. Hys answer att lardge I pray you retorne me, yf nothyng els.

Your lovyngge ffrend,

GWYDER, this xiiijth of Marshe, 1603.

*John Wyn,*

of Gwyder.

He promysed me an advowson of the lyvyngge by Tho. Robts, when he denyed the confirmation. I sent unto hym the same man, w<sup>th</sup>. in too dayes after for the same, and my coosin Elice Vaghan w<sup>th</sup>. all ; and he denyed me eny, sayinge he had provyded no preferment for his wife, and that he myght overlyve Sharpe, and have that lyvyngge in Comendam. So, to conclude, I must have nothyngge but a scornefull, chetyngge letter, in leu of all my good indeavors.

## No. IV.

*Bishop Morgan, to Mr. Martyn.*

SALUTEM IN C.HRO.

I fynd that Mr. Wyn hath acquaynted you w<sup>th</sup>. the unkyndnes w<sup>ch</sup>. he conceaveth in me; and I am glad to have so indyfferent an arbytrator. Hys requeste was, that I wold confyrme a Lease for three lyves upon the Rectorye of Llanrŵst (being a presentatyve benefyce, fytt to be some preacher's lyvyng) at the yearelye rent of 50l. the thyng being worth 140l. and beinge of my patronadge. Thys requeste much perplexed my mynde, for that yt greved me to denye Mr. Wyn anye thyng, and my consyence reclaymed agaynst the grauntyng of thys thyng, being so preiudiciall to preachers, speciallye to the next incumbent and to the church yt self, w<sup>ch</sup>. wanteth competent mayntenance for preachers.

To com to the pleasures that Mr. Wyn dyd unto me, they are not so greate as he accounteth them; for I payd for hys time upon Wybernant, and hys uncle Rob<sup>te</sup>. 40l. or more att one tyme, beinge a greater some then they had of anie of the other tenantes that held lyke landes in that township. I pray God forgeve Mr. Wyn hys harde dealyng w<sup>th</sup>. these tenantes, whose tenementes he could not covett w<sup>th</sup>oute impiety. In measuryng of Pant yr Helygloyn, I had lesse then some affirmed to be due unto me, and more then others wysshed; in leue wheareof I was to erect a stone wall, or a dytch of earth, betweene me and hym to my greate charges.

Jeuan Meredydd and I weare ffrendes, when, upon Mr. Wyn hys request, I gott to hys brother Robt. Wyn his nowe wyf; w<sup>ch</sup>. caused such hatred and sutes betwene me and the sayd Jeuan, that yt cost me from 60l. to 100l. more than I had. Mr. Wyn in deed procured to me two commyssioners, Mr. Morys Johnes once, and Mr. Morys Lewys, an

other tyme; and was my dayseman to ende that cause. I sustayned all those broyles and obloquyes for hys sake and hys brother's.

He wrote unto me allreadye, that yff he had not bene, I had contynued yet Viccar of Llan Rhayadr. How much he ys deceaved herein, youe and others do knowe. But yff I had contynued Vicar of Llan Rhayadr, I had bene in better case then nowe I am. I had testimonials inough bysydes that w<sup>ch</sup>. he procured; and I had prevayled, yff I had had none, as my Lo. of Canterburie and my L. Treasurer beleved. Yet I confesse that Mr. Wyn thearein shewed greate love (as then I thought) to me; but (as nowe I fynde) to hym selfe, hopynge to make a stave of me to dryve preachers partryges to hys netts. I thanke Mr. Wyn for hys paynes in daynge betwene me and Mr. Holande; although he gott me but 150l. wheare I shold have had 1000l. But I may not requyte thys paynes w<sup>th</sup>. the spoyle of anie church. Yt seemeth that Mr. Wyn thynketh that I do but pretend conscience. But I assure youe, in verbo Sacerdotis, that I think in my harte, that I weare better robb by the hygh waye syde, then do that w<sup>ch</sup>. he requesteth. And I knowe that as to serve an errynge conscience is a falt, so to do agaynst conscience, though yt be errynge, ys a synne. Yff my ffathere and mothere weare lyvyng, and made the request that Mr. Wyn maketh, I hope that I sholde have the grace to say them nay. I fynde farther that Mr. Wyn is in two errors; the one ys, that I promysed to hym a confyrmatione of that Lease; and the other ys, that I promysed hym by John Robtes an advowson; wheare in truth I promysed neather of both, but told Mr. Wyn that I wold be vearly loath to confyrme anie Lease upon anie presentatyve benefyce; that I wold do for hym as much and more then anie other; and that yff I wold confyrme anie such, hys shold be the fyrst. I neaver confyrmed anie, nor meane to do. But the Chapter and I graunted, not iij lyves, but one lyff, not upon a presentatyve benefyce, but upon an impropriatione, w<sup>ch</sup>. is a dyvydent amongst manie, and can not be occupied by anie of us, for that we are farr of, and thearefore must be letten for one terme or other; and the incumbe ys for the church, and not for a lay man. But Mr. Wyn, thoughe he knoweth that theare ys dyffERENCE betwene grauntynge a lease of oure owne and confyrmyng the

lease of an other man ; betwene a presentatyve benefyce and an impropriatione ; betwene one lyff and iij lyves ; betwene a publyke use and a pryvate, styll exclaymeth, that I have confyrmed a lyke lease, and wyll not according to promyse confyrme hys. My answeare to John Robtes was, that a Bushopp's advowson wold not bynde the successor ; and when he asked, whyther Mr. Wyn shold have yt, yff yt dyd bynde, I told hym, that, yff yt dyd bynde, he shold have yt and myne eares also ; for that I dyd well knowe that yt can not bynde. And when he cam next to aske, yf I wold graunt yt de bene esse, whyther yt wold bynde or not, I told hym, I wold not, and that yt was no part of my promyse or meanynge. John Robtes mystooke my wordes concernynge my wyff ; for I dyd not say that she must be fyrst provyded for, meanynge that I wyll gett for her anie such lease. For though she be my wyff, and thearefore one flesh, yet shall she be neaver provyded for by me rather then by such leases ; I wyll not spoyle y<sup>e</sup>. church. Thys was the effect of my then speach, wherby Mr. Wyn myght have understoode that nothyng dryveth me to thys resolutione, but my conscyence. Of my Commendam, I dyd and do say, that yff I weare so lewde as to confyrme all the leases in the Diocesse, yet I wold not be such a foole as to confyrme anie, before I weare better provyded for my Commendam. Yff I dyd, tell Mr. Sharpe, that he shold do well to leave hys lyvynge to hys successors as ffre as he founde the same. I dyd but my duetye. Yff thys weare not a case of conscyence, you shold not neede to perswade me to gratifye Mr. Wyn ; for hys owne requeste ys of greate force w<sup>th</sup>. me. Youre two reasons, or rather hys reasons (for he used the lyke in hys letters to my selfe) do lytle move me. For yff I shall fynde hym as bytter an enemye, as ever I founde hym my frende, yt wylbe a comfort to me to suffer in so good a cause. I knowe that God, whose church I wold defende, ys able to defende me agaynst all enemyes, and wyll defende me so farr, as he shall see yt to be expedient for me ; that Mr. Wyn can not kyll my soule, nor do to my bodye more then God wyll permytt. And my confydent trust ys, that God wyll not permytt anie thyng to be commytted agaynst me, but that w<sup>ch</sup>. shalbe for my good, eather in thys worlde or in the worlde to com. And yff dyverse men wyll dyversely descant of thys unkyndnes ;

What? ys thys to move a man that shold be settled in consyence, to do agaynst consyence! I knowe that some do blame me in hys presence, and blame hym and commende me in his absence. And yt may be that others do use me in lyke sort. Inconstans et mutabile vulgus. Auxilium meum in nomine Dni.

Thus resolved to do neather thys nor anie other act that shalbe preiudiciall to the church,

I rest,

Amicus usque ad aras,

*Willm. Asaphen.*

[To Hys very lovyng Frende,  
Mr. Thomas Martyn at hys  
house over agaynst St. Andrewe's, in Holborne.]

[My L. Bushopp, being in  
London at the Parliament,  
wrote this unto me.

*Thomas Martyn.*]

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No. V.

*William Morgan, Bishop of St. Asaph, to Sir John Wynn of Gwydir.*

SALUTEM IN C.HRO.

SEEINGE you can better agree w<sup>th</sup>. my tithe in Langustenyn then w<sup>th</sup>. me, and have, as I heare, taken order for the gatheringe of it; I am loath to contrarie you therin, soe that you send me money by this bearer for the same, although I knowe my tithe to be

worthe twice as much as you pay for it. But I pray you to cause the tithe of Bodescallan to be gathered in kind; for yo<sup>r</sup>. cosen Hugh Gwynne Gru: hath written to me that he would tithe it in specie this yeare.

Thus wishinge you in all thinges the direction of the Holy Ghost, I rest,

Yo<sup>r</sup>. sickly neighbour,

*Willm. Asaphen.*

At ST. ASAPH, the 24th. of July, 1604.

[ To his wors. neighbour,  
John Wynne of Gwydir,  
Esquire.]

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No. VI.

*Richard Parry, Bishop of St. Asaph, to Sir John Wynn of Gwydir.*

GOOD MR. GWYN.

YOU needed not this paynes to remoove anye conceite of myne. Before y<sup>r</sup>. letters, I never heard of your refusall of Subscription unto myen certificate; and now havinge heard of it, I conceive no woorse of you then of a very wyse and sufficient gentleman, whose love in anye good and honest cause I shall be glad to deserve. Touchinge my certieficate, I did sufficientlie knowe, y<sup>r</sup>. no one man in my countrey subscribinge wold much further me, nor anye one man wantinge wold anye thinge hinder me. I am farr from imagininge y<sup>r</sup>. a gentleman of your place and woorth eyther doth flatter me, or expect benefite by me. You have no cause to use y<sup>e</sup>. one, and I have no meanes to afforde y<sup>e</sup>. other; for as you truelye write, all I have is litle enough for y<sup>e</sup>. support of mye owne estate.

Your hard censure of mye predecessor I am verye sorye to heare; for I willingly embrace nothinge: De mortuis nisi sanctum. Domino suo stetit aut cecidit. And so doe we. God graunt we may stand unto the Lord, unto whose defence I commend us; and with my verye hartye commendations to y'selfe, I rest

Your lovinge frend,

*Ric. Asaphen.*

GRESFORD, 24to. Febr. 1604.

[To the R. Woor. mye Lovinge frend  
John Gwyn of Gwyder, Esquier, these  
at Gwyder.]

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## NO. VII.

*John Williams (afterwards Abp. of York) to Sir John Wynn.*

WORSHIPFULL SIR,

MY dutie and most heartye comendations remembered. The continuance of your lovinge kindenes towards me, by howe much the lesse worthylye, by soe much the more must I account my selfe for the same bounde and obliged unto your Worship's service.

Concerninge that money my brother owes me (w<sup>ch</sup>. I cannot tell well whether it be 7 or 8l.) if your Worshipp will this next terme see it conveyed to be delivered to my Lord of London's Stewarde, Mr. Griffyn, or to my Tutour Mr. Gwynne, I shall rest bounde unto you. I have written acquittances bothe for the yeare 1604 and the yeare 1605, the owne from Cambridge, and the other from London, in the presence of William Lloyd; and therefore it is not in my over sight that your Worshipp hath not received them. In place of them this letter may serve your Worshipp.

I have gotten of late a small benefice, w<sup>ch</sup>. will do well, being ioyned to my place in Cambridge; and therefore if your Worshippe could procure me for this yeare's rent but 7l. before hande, I would give William Lloyd a generall acquittaunce for this yeare; or if I have two yeares more to expire of my lease (as indeede I do not knowe) I would be contente to take 12l. for both yeares, if your Worshippe could procure me soe much. Howsoever I must and will acknoweledge my selfe æternallye bounde to praye for your Worshippe, for your Worship's kinde love and care of me this last yeare; and soe desiringe oportunitie to make uppe my gratefull wordes w<sup>th</sup>. thankfull deede, I committ your Worshippe to the Almighty's tuicion.

Your Worshippe's poore kinsman,

bounde in all dutye,

*John Williams.*

LONDON HOUSE this 5 of Decem. [1605]

To the worshipfull, his approved  
lovinge kinsman Mr. John Gwynne  
Esquier, at Gwydder, deliver these.

Wth. speed.

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No. VIII.

*Mr. Holland to Sir John Wynn.*

RIGHT WOOR.

I Doe undersand by yo<sup>r</sup>. lres that you purpose to send yo<sup>r</sup> sonnes to this universitie, soe soone as you cane be resolved in what colledge, and w<sup>th</sup>. what tutor to place them. Ffor my part I hould St. John's colledge to be omni exceptione majus; not inferior to any colledge for the bringinge up of yonge gentlemen, but the flyttest and best house that you

cann send yo<sup>r</sup>. sonnes unto. And for the choise of a good tutor (yf I may presume to advice you) yo<sup>r</sup>. beast course wilbe to cause yo<sup>r</sup>. good brother Mr. Rychard Gwyn for to commend them by his lres unto Mr. Dr. Clayton, the master of our colledge, whoe, I ame well assured, will at my cosen Rychard his comendacione be redie to nominate suche a tutor for them, as will for his sake be verie respective and carfull of ther good.

Touchinge the proportion of allowance that wilbe requisyte for them, I can say lytle; ffor I doe not know whether you will have them to be in the ffellowes' commons ore not, of w<sup>ch</sup>. rancke yf it be yo<sup>r</sup>. pleasure to have them to be, then cann you allowe noe lesse then threescore pounds yearly for bothe, ov<sup>r</sup>. and besyde the apparell; but yf you purpose to have them to be in the schollers' commons, then halfe the former allowance will serve, ther apparell beinge noe part therof. The tuicione for every ffellow comoner is 4lb. per annum, and a pentioner paythe 40s. yearly to his tutor for readinge to him. Ffurther it wilbe requisyte that they have beddinge, w<sup>th</sup>. such furniture as shalbe needfull, sent from home. And when they doe come, they shall find me redy to the uttermost of my power, to performe all good offices towards them. Yf my cosen Mr. Owen Gwyn had not beene a discontynewer from the colledge, he, I confesse, might have donn them greater pleasure then I can doe; but howsoever yf my cosenes come to St. John's, they shall want noe ffrends in the howse. And thus humbly takinge my leave, I rest ever,

Y<sup>r</sup>. woor<sup>pp</sup>'s poore kinsman,

most assured to use,

*Wyllm: Holland.*

St. JOHN'S COLL. in CAMBR.  
November the last, 1606.

[To the right woor. my assured  
good cosen Sr. John Wynn,  
Knight, de: these at Gwyder.]

## No. IX.

*John Williams (Abp.) to Sir John Wynn.*

RIGHTE WORSHIPFULL,

MY dutie remembred. I hope by this time your wor. hath received two letters, answeringe in effecte those doubtess propounded, in your letter, w<sup>ch</sup>. I receiv'de by this bearer. Since my last ill newes, there hath happen'd here noe occurrence worthe the relatinge; our feare is noe lesse, and the daunger noe more then it was at firste. Sithence your son's goinge into the countrey (w<sup>ch</sup>. was at this daye se'nighte.) I have heard in a letter from my curate of his well doinge, his abode beinge within a mile of my poore benefice. When he returnes unto the colledge, I will putte that stratagem in practice, w<sup>ch</sup>. you mencion in your letter, and send your wor. the coppye of his theame. For my likinge of his proceedinges, bonâ fide I like his learninge well for his yeares; his witte better, especiallye when yeares of discretion shall season it. If I listed to find faulte (althoughe truely no greate cause) I doe sometimes call more egerlye on him to keep his studye, w<sup>ch</sup>. nowe (his gaudye dayes beinge spent) we may more boldlye doe then heretofore; and he muste (as surelye he dothe) daylye amend. Scholler he is for Mr. Price his place; and so is my man to, Mr. John Lloyd's sonne, for one Sir Dolben's. His tutour, I hope, doth certifye the receipte of such thinges as the bearer broughte him; onely his token, beinge five shillings from my ladye, I have taken uppe, and will deliver it to him at my nexte goinge to my benefice. I doe hope our colledge shall meete agayne before Christmasse; for as yeate there is more causeles feare then apparent daunger of any infection. Thus with my heartiest comendacions and

bounden dutye to my good Ladye, I commend both your Wor. to God's protection.

Your Wor. in all dutye,

*John Williams.*

ST. JOHN'S COLL. in CAMB.  
this 20th. of Novemb. 1608.

*Postsc.*

I will, by God's leave, either provide him a studye to his full contentement, or make him profer of a studye in myne owne chamber.  
A dieu.

[ To the righte worshipfull my  
ever approved good freynde, Sir  
John Wynne at Gwydder,  
deliver these ]

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No. X.

*John Williams (Abp.) to Sir John Wynn.*

RIGHT WORSHIPFULL,

MY moste true love ever remembred. My coz. Robin, who w<sup>th</sup>. the helpe my serchers hath furnishte you for your provision, doth promisse me to sende you at this time a complete note of his former expences. My mechanicque buisnesses at the Fayre are such as I cannot take that paynes therein I otherwise wolde doe. Truelye I cannot excuse either him or his brother, for absence from theyre studyes at extraordinarye howres, or any neglect of theyre Tutor's lectoures. And yeat they are nowe (as formerlye they were) my under-neighboures.

How the proiecte of hasteninge his beinge felowe failed, I liste not to enquire; but I am sure, after your departure there was nothinge donne.

And the yssue noe other, but that the Juniour Proctour was sharpely rebuked, that he, contrarie to the statute, wolde offer to bringe in one by his Majestie's mandate. Who replied, He never went about any such matter; as resolved, if once he hadd showne himselfe in the buisines, to effecte it, or have line in the dust for it. Marye, he added, that if the youth himselfe compassed any such matter, he thoughte that he hadde deserv'de that favowre at the Colledge, as to accepte thereof without such grudginge.

What you were enformed of my troubles and oppositions w<sup>th</sup>. the heades of our colleges, I knowe not; but this I am certayne, I rest much obliged to your Wor. for your most kinde and lovinge counsaile, w<sup>ch</sup>. could proceede from noe other heade, then that well-springe of your former and never-failing affection. But Mr. Th. Edwards my felowe could have gonne nere to enforme you of all the buisines.

The opposition twixte the maisters of Colleges and the bodie of the Universitye, w<sup>ch</sup> is the companie of our Regent and Non-regent Maister of Artes, hath beene soe longe a foote, as any Cantabrigian can enforme you thereof; but it is most of all perceived in that twixt the vice-chauncelour and the proctoures, whoe are in a maner Tribuni Plebis, and represente the bodye, as the vice-chauncelour dothe the heades of Colleges. In former yeares, as the vice-ch<sup>rs</sup>. were allwayes grave old men and Divines by profession (noe yonge, servinge-man lawier, as this yeare) soe the proctours for want of other meanes did over-shoote themselve soe farre in takinge of under-hande considerations; as that lienge allwayes in the vice-chaunceloure's lurche, they never durste shewe themselves either for the maintenaunce of theyre owne places, or the statute-freedom of the Universitye.

My selfe being by God and my good M<sup>r</sup>. soe well provided for (to myne owne contentement at leaste wise) as that my mynde scorn'de to be obnoxious to any man for the leaste bribe or fee due by statute, grewe by soe much the more bould to stande upon myne owne place and the libertie of the Universitye graunted in statute, and consequentelye to overthwart the new-fanglednes of this vice-ch<sup>r</sup>. endeavouring by all meanes possible to

reduce our Aristarchie to a Monarchie (as they terme it) but, as we understand, an absolute Tyrannie.

This was soe well taken for the firste parte and moytie of the yeare, that not onelie the M<sup>rs</sup>. of Artes, who graced me with as many and those extraordinarye favoures, as they laded my adversarye with shame and ignominie; but the heades of Colleges themselves encouraged with all applause my just and academicall cariage and proceedings. For you must knowe Dr. Cowel and Dr. Clayton, the two greateste maisters in towne, and my extraordinarye deare freyndes to be as yeat alive; in whose places . . . . ded two other, defective, thoughe not in affection, yeate in pare . . . . action.

Afterward falls in the interim our Heade-shippe of St. John's, in w<sup>ch</sup>. busines I, servinge my turne abroad, with the good opinion conceiv'de of me at home, was thoughte to have donne such service, as procur'de the hatred of two of the cheefe m<sup>rs</sup>. Dr. Carye beinge one of them; who, as they thinke, hadd it not been for me, hadd gott the maistershippe of St. John's. There was the first oportunitie the vice chr. hadd againste me.

In the weeke of this, falls the death of the L. Treasurer and Chauncelour; by consequence greate canvasinge who should succede him. All the heades (two excepted) expectinge bushopricks and deanries, came upon the Archbp. of Canterburye. My selfe, still reposinge greate trust in the bodye of the Universitye, and fearinge if his Grace were our Chauncelour, any complaynte of the Vice-chaunc. wolde be hearde against me, who was, both for my buisines of Llanrhayader, and this late of our maistershippe, growne more distastefull unto his Grace, putt all my force togeither, and by many voices, against the heades, chose the L. Privie seale twice to our Chancelour; thoughe I knewe Googe the vicechr. to be a servant to his nephewe the L. of Suffolke. You see then a second oportunitie for the Vicechr. to ioine w<sup>th</sup> the heades to putt somme disgrace upon me.

And yeate all this while, thoughe buisines were in hammeringe, nothinge coulde be donne, while it was terme time, and that the m<sup>rs</sup>. of Artes hadd occasion of meetinge, my strengthe encreasinge still in the bodie. After the Commencement, all occasions of meetinge for this yeare ended, the

vicech<sup>r</sup>. desirous to revenge somme p<sup>r</sup>. of his disgraces, upon me, whom he hadd envied for the love of the Univeritye shewed me, then for any other cause hated, ioynn'de w<sup>th</sup>. these heades, and summon'd me to appeare before them ; yeate not soe suddenlye, but I was given to understand, that yf I appear'de, he wold de facto committ me to prison. Whereupon, one of these inconveniences, either to incurr by submission a disgrace nev<sup>r</sup>. heard of in a proctour of an Universitye, and most unbeseeminge my person (havige soe nere a dependaunce upon soe Honourable a P<sup>r</sup>sonage) or els by resistinge a suspicion to be the authour of a riot and tumulte, into w<sup>ch</sup>. I sawe all the m<sup>r</sup>s. so readye to enter ; hereupon I gave place to this Bedleme felowe, whom I knewe arm'de with authoritye, and appeal'de to our newe-chosen Chauncelour, where I had an honourable and noe disgracefull release.

Here indeed we have stucke these ten weeks. The vicech<sup>r</sup>. desirous of somme disgrace on me before my going out of this office, and I on the contrarye endeavoured to gett of the stage without any hishing. True, the E. of Suffolke hath dealte earnestly for him and many of the Heades of the Universitye : the L. Chancelour as earnestlye for me, and the whole bodie of the maisters ; and I thinke we are at an ende.

This is all that suite in lawe your Wor. heares of. Soe as my prosperous succes in that first enterprize you speake of, hathe beene the source and ofspringe of the second. It was spoken of olde in the comendacion of Traiane, *Nec bella times, nec provocas*. I confesse I am not soe valourous ; for I protest I feare troubles, and am contente with any losse of money to redeeme my quietnes. My farmour in Northamptonshire can witnes it well, of whom (as Mr. Johnes my best freynde can testifie) I was gladd, for quietnes' sake, to take 50l. where a 100l. was due ; and that but this laste winter. Marye, a man's creditte once loste cannot be soe well supplied as his money. *Profligatisimi homuncionis est (sai the Tullie) negligere famam et diligere pecuniam*. Creditt and virginitie are seldomme recover'd. And especiallye for a scholler, it is the ayre he breathes in, and deprive him of that he hath noe longer beinge. But I take your common Barrestours to be plainetifes, not (as my case is) mere

passive defendants. It was helde a disgrace to Claudius the Emperour, that he was to readye to putte uppe :

Non faciendo fuit, sed patiando, nocens.

And the greatest credit that ever Cato hadde, that, being cal'de in question two and fourtie severall times, he ever assoilde himselfe, and was clear'de by the judges. I hadd leifer be quiet indeede, if it were possible for one and the same man to be imployed in actions of this nature as to make a freynde Mr. of soe great a Colledge, and receive noe envie afterward. Thus much of that busines, because I wolde in your Wor. accompte be freedde, non solum a crimine, verum etiam et a criminatione.

Now, Sir, I pray you give me leave to request you to take somme to congratulate your coz. our maister his fortunes, and to thanke him for paste and desire his furtherance for futures, in the behaulfe of your sonne. He hath (upon my suyte) bestowed a chamber on them. And I do not knowe, whither (upon these occasions of difference we heare of betwixt your Wor. and his brother) he expecte somme complementes.

Sæpe rogare soles qualis sim, Prisce, futurus,  
Si fiam locuples, simque repente potens.  
Quenquam posse putas mores narrare futuros?  
Dic mihi, si fueris tu leo, qualis eris.

*Martial, lib. 12. Epigr. 94.*

Not that I finde the gentleman a whit altered; but that I knowe your Wor. beinge putt in mynde not to be backward in these ceremonies.

My coz. Robin, for his shorte time of absence, was but at Sir Thom. Tresham, my wor. good freynde, invited thither by his sonne and heyre, one of his companions.

Thus most most thankfull for your Wor. greater care of soe poor a kinsman as my selfe, I will ever rest

Your Wor. much obliged

*John Williams.*

... R'S BOOTH in STURBRIDGE,  
the 13th of Sept. 1612.

[To the r. worshipfull his most  
approved lovinge Coz. Sir John  
Wynne Knight Barronett at  
Gwyder.]

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No. XI.

*John Williams (Abb.) to Sir John Wynn.*

SIR,

MY dutye and heartiest love and service remembred, I have received your money, w<sup>ch</sup> puttes me in mynde of God's usurye, ubi (as Sct. Gregorie writes) fœnus triplicat mutuum, the interest trebles the principall; and yeat, notwithstandinge the rigour of the statute, your Worshippe is like to receive no other returne, then of a fewe thanks; w<sup>ch</sup> Simonides, once tossing up and downe his cofer, found to be nothinge. But your Wor. may well remember that sentence (w<sup>ch</sup> we Academickes would gladlye disperse as farre as we maye) once observ'de by Seneca, often usurpte by Traiane: Beatius est dare, quam accipere.

I have by good chaunce, satisfied your Wor. requeste for a chamber for my coz. Robin, at leaste wise for this winter;—ne obtentu frigoris muniretur negligentia, as Plinie Speakes.

I am sorye everye waye to heare your Wor. reporte of my brother in lawe's disastrous courses, but the more pacientlye sorye, because I ever

expected it. Marrye, this moves me a newe, to heare that my brother should soe unadvisedlye and unfortunately (for I can never beleeeve he would doe it willfullye) be an occasion of the leaste discontentement or disopportunitye to your Wor. especiallye busines cominge nowe to that passe ;

. . . . . non *quirit*.

Ut si ipsa salus servare hunc hominem vellet,

Your Wor. knowes in parte, and should more clereelye, if you sawe my letter to him *Quam consilio, non meo, hoc fecerit*. And I most humblye intreate your Wor. to impute it rather to an unexperienced indisscretion, w<sup>ch</sup> I finde to prenaunt in all his proiectes, then to any obstinate and heady wilfulness. Howsoever, I must still continue my suyte unto your Wor. *ex visceribus misericordiarum*, to remember my poore sister.

. . . . ., *Nihil illa nec ausa est ;*

*Nec potuit.*

And soe I commend your Wor. to God's protection, w<sup>th</sup> thanks for all your love and courtesies,

Your Wor. in all dutye,

*John Williams.*

ST. JOHN'S COLL. in C. Nov. 3.

[To the righte Wor. his ever  
approved lovinge Coz. Sir John  
Wynn at Gwyder.  
deliver these.]

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## No. XII.

*Contract between Bernard Lyndesey and Richard Wynn Esqrs.  
M'd.*

YF Mr. Bernard Lyndesey Esquier Groom to his Ma<sup>ties</sup>. Bed-chamber procure a pardon for Sir John Wynn Knight and Baronet and

some of his servants of their fynes and offences inflicted upon them by the Counsell of the Marches, upon the sealing of the said pardon he is to receave from Richard Wynn Esquier sonne and heire to the said Sir Jo: Wynn the somme of three hundred and fitye pounds. In witness of this agreement between us we have both sette our hands the sixteenth of January 1615.

Signed in the presence  
of me,

*B. Lyndesey.*

*Rich. Wynn.*

*Amb: Thelwall.*

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No. XIII.

*Inscription on Sir Richard Wynn's Monument.*

HIC JACET

RICARDAS WYNN de GWYDIR

In comitatu de Carnarvon, M. et Baronettus, Thesaurarius,  
Nec non Conciliarius honoratissimi principis et Henriettæ Mariæ Reginaë,  
Qui linea parentali ex illustri illâ familiâ et antiquissima stirpe  
Britannica, North-Walliæ principum oriundus.

Denatus 19 die Julii 1649,

Æt: 61.

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No. XIV.

*Inscription on the Vicarage House at Gresford.*

Dr. Robert Wynne, Chancellor of St. Asaph and Vicar of Gresford, elder brother to the Welsh historian William Wynne, put on the house the following inscription.

Reverendus Vir HUMPHREDUS LLOYD.  
 Episcopas BANGOR: hujus Eccl: Vicarius,  
 Ædem hanc lapsam proprio sumptu  
 Ex fundo struxit:  
 Hoc quaecunque pii Præsulis monumentum  
 Posuit ROBERTUS WYNNE D. D.  
 A: D: 1702.

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No. XV.

*Character of Mr. Blayney.*

ARTHUR BLAYNEY of Gregynog Esquire was descended from Brochwel Jsgithrog a Prince of Powys in the seventh century, but he valued himself on his pedigree no otherwise, than by taking care that his conduct should not disgrace it. In the early part of his life he had applied to the study of the law, not with any professional view, but merely to guard himself, and those who consulted him, from chicane and injustice, to which many who made the profession their livelihood, were in his opinion so strongly tempted and inclined, that he seldom mentioned a lawyer without expressive marks of dislike; but this could be humour only. He read much and had a good collection of books, but was more disposed to conceal, than to obtrude his knowledge. He was a firm adherent to the Constitution under which he lived, and never spared his zeal and support when the public stood in need of it. At the same time his loyalty did not preclude him from using that invaluable privilege of a British subject in freely censuring, upon proper occasions, both the measures and instruments of Government. Uncorruptible himself, he detested venality in others. He was of no party,

but that of honest men. Whether he supposed that the Peerage was degenerated, and that some degree of contagion dwelt near a Court, or whether he had gathered the prejudice from history, in which he was conversant; but certain it is, he was by no means partial to Lords or Placemen. No man thought more highly of Parliaments, but pertinaciously he declined the honour of representing his native county, though often invited to it by the unbiased suffrages of his countrymen. The active part he took in behalf of other candidates was so pure in its motives, that his support gave a decided superiority over the highest rank and influence; most of the neighbouring freeholders only waited to know his opinion, to make up their own. Few gentlemen were better qualified for the magistracy, or more sensible of its importance, but from an unaccountable diffidence he could never be prevailed upon to act in the commission, though always ready to applaud and second the just efforts of those who did. Of the established religion he was a steady member; defended its rights and respected its ministers, where they respected themselves. There is scarce a church, in which he had any concern, but what in its repairs and ornaments bears witness to his munificence. His tenants, from their relation, he considered as friends, and not only allowed them ample profit from his estates, but encouraged and assisted them in every rational attempt to improvement. In his farm houses and their offices, beyond what was necessary, he was always studying convenience and comfort, according to the situation, and even taste of the occupier: He did so much in this way, and did it so well, that it is easy to trace his premises, which were very extensive, by the condition in which he left them; and although he possessed an uncommon quantity of the finest wood, he generally bought his timber. To his small tenants he was a bountiful master, and he complained of the bad state of a cottage he shewed me, which in any other place might have been thought a good one. He applied a little land to each, to keep their cow in the summer, and in the winter, he gave them hay to support it. Nor was it his own property that he was desirous of improving only; the county at large he looked upon as having a peculiar claim upon him, and no undertaking was proposed, but met with his

countenance and liberality. The roads in particular for many miles round, owe their creation almost entirely to him, and when his land was wanted to widen them, he would give it on one condition only, "That they took enough." You had only to convince him of the utility of a design, to be sure of his purse and protection. He always took time to consider and enquire; but from the moment he was decided, he wanted no subsequent instigation. His charity was liberal and diffusive; but instead of confining it to the idle vagrant and clamorous poor, his chief aim was to put deserving objects in the way, to afford them the means of providing for themselves. There are many respectable tradesmen and gentlemen too, whose embarrassments have been removed by his friendly assistance. He was undoubtedly an œconomist on system, which enabled him to do what he did: when the object of expence was a proper one, he never regarded the sum; of course, nothing sordid or niggardly could be imputed to him, even when œconomy was most conspicuous: He would never be persuaded to keep a carriage, and very seldom hired one, performing, till his infirmities disabled him, his longest journies on horseback. His constant residence was at Gregynog, except occasional excursions to his other house at Morvill near Bridgnorth. One of the most prominent features in his character was his hospitality, of which there are but few such instances now remaining. His table was every day plentifully covered with the best things the country and season afforded, for unless it was to do honour to particular guests, he never indulged in far sought delicacies (preferring the ducks and chickens of his poor neighbours, which he bought in all numbers, whether he wanted them or not, and I remember in the summer of 1793, a small pond near the house swarming with the former kind) but he was very choice in his liquors, which were the best, that care and money could procure. His place, not happy in situation, was neither elegant, nor ornamented, but comfortable in the most extended sense of the word; inasmuch that it would be difficult to find another house, where the visitor was more perfectly at his ease, from the titled tourist to the poor benighted way-worn exciseman, who knew not where else to turn in either for refreshment or lodging; for Mr. Blayney's hospitality reached every traveller known

or unknown who could decently make any pretensions to it. In his conversation he was affable, polite, instructive, and chearful; seldom brilliant, but never dull, and appeared always to enjoy the innocent sallies of humour and wit from others, though they seldom originated from himself. To his domesticks, he was a kind and indulgent master; their services were easy, but expected to be prompt and exact, not only to himself, but to the humblest of his company. They always looked sleek and happy, and might grow rich if they would. In truth, no animal in his possession, from the stable to the poultry-yard, had cause to complain, and I knew him once vexed with a servant for sending, as he said, a thin dog from Gregynog. His hounds too fat for speed, were fed and followed by a running huntsman: His partridge were set, and his woodcocks shot on the ground with a pointer, and stalking-horse. Order and regularity pervaded his whole household. He was never married, but was remarkably pleased with, and pleasing to the ladies, who visited him, and they were not a few. He carried his notions of independance to a pitch, that bordered upon excess; always ready to confer reasonable favours; he reluctantly accepted them; several worthy Bishops of the Diocese have lamented, that he would never put it in their power, to use their patronage, in favour of his commendation. In his temper, he was constitutionally warm; What true Welshman is otherwise? His resentments, generally well founded, were consequently strong, and sometimes permanent. He could forgive an injury, but if his confidence was forfeited, it was nearly impossible to retrieve it. His dress was plain and studiously neat and becoming, and he made a London suit every year, and his constant direction to his taylor (whom he had not seen of forty years) was, that he made the present coat as the last: His shoe buckles were very small, and he had a dressed pair; they were of the old form and fashion; and he wore his breeches' garters very high. Mr. Blayney died in Gregynog, the first of October, 1795, in the sixty-first year of his age, and was buried by his particular directions, very privately, in the church-yard at Tregynon. He was universally and justly lamented; an advantage which amiable men possess over great ones.

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No. XVI.*Some Observations on the Crown Manors in Wales.*

IN Nordon's Survey at the British Museum, may be seen the map of the lordship of Bromfield and Yale, consisting of seventeen manors, with their several members or townships, as there enumerated. This extensive tract in its present state is of little use to the Crown or the subject, when it might be made advantageous to both; and to this purpose let a bill pass for the sale of this and other Welsh lordships, since the power of the Crown goes, at present, to a limited lease only. And might not several manors, composing the whole, be separated from the mass, and sold distinctly and by themselves; and by valuing in the sale of every of them, the divisional allotments due to the Crown, as Lord, from each, together with the other manerial rights, excepting the mines and minerals, long since alienated, might not an handsome sum be expected; and in the case of some of the manors, where there may be little waste, still something may be looked for from the consideration of game and sporting objects. And might not the Crown in this course avoid the difficulty (in an ugly moment of a Welsh revenue question once experienced) of negotiating themselves with the freeholder, in the first instance, who if brought to terms of inclosure, may more readily agree with the new, than the old proprietor? It is apprehended that other paramountships in North Wales, now in the Crown, have in them many of these aggregated manors, accumulated by conquest, succession or forfeiture, and heretofore granted out of Crown, and as this, returned into it again. And might it not tempt the rich and zealous Antiquary to purchase and restore the venerable remains of our castles, many yet renewable, if the Crown brought them to the market, also, and discharged them, as I have little doubt it can, from such claims, as by payments of small acknowledgments certain individuals make upon

them, but which, I conceive, give not to those persons power to alienate them themselves. Thus, and what was the state of Warwick and Alnwick once, their magnificence might be restored, and a good price be obtained by the Crown for them, whilst at present they are incumbrances to it from the payment and sinecures to their governors. North Wales has not had the attention it merits; it possesses sea and land, as other countries, but systems have interposed to check these advantages. The uses of the first are, in a manner, forbidden to us by an heavy coal coast duty, of no profit to the state (which might be relieved by commutation) which renders our vast depot of lime half useless; and the same shores of the same island seem to front each other, not as natural friends and fellow subjects, but as rancourous rivals and jealous enemies;

*Littora litoribus contraria, fluctibus undas :*

To our land then; which is cold, savage, and unprofitable,

. . . . . *Mons undique et undique cœlum.*

Cultivation is checked from the reasons just given, and the mountain starves again a third of what it breeds; it fattens none. Large plantations would be probably made if it was once appropriated; hence in time, wood would warm the waste, and bring habitation into it. At present, its best produce is peat, without which, much of the surrounding country would not be habitable.

The plan to be pursued and the learning necessary to an effective practicable bill of this nature, delicacy and consequence, might be assisted, from a review of the acts of Parliament respecting Wales; from the annexation under Henry the Eighth (the parent and prototype of a greater Union since effected, as acknowledged by Lord Somers, and long before suggested by Chief Baron Doddridge) to the time of William the Third; which with the speech of Mr. Price in the House of Commons, and of Sir William Williams, before the Council, might give the Legislature light in such a business. Some slight and humble hints are here only offered.

## No. XVII.

*Bishop Goodman's Will.*

In the Name of the FATHER, and of the SON, and of the HOLY GHOST, our Creator, our Redeemer, our Sanctifier, three Persons and one God, Amen :

THIS Seventeenth day of January, in the year of our Lord 1755, I Godfrey Goodman bishop late of Gloucester, being weak in body, but of perfect memory and understanding, I praise God for it, do here make and declare this my last will and testament, and thereby revoking all former wills and testaments by me made. And first of all I give and bequeath my sinful soul to God, hoping by his mercy and by the death and passion of my dear Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, dying a member of his Church, that he will take me into the number of his Elect. I do humbly thank God that he hath given me a penitent and a contrite heart, as an earnest of my repentance and reconciliation to himself; and here I profess that as I have lived, so I die most constant in all the articles of the Christian Faith, and in all the doctrine of God's holy Catholick and Apostolick Church, whereof I do acknowledge the Church of Rome to be the Mother Church, and I do verily believe, that no other Church hath any salvation in it, but only as far as it concurs with the faith of the Church of Rome: And for my Body I do leave to christian burial in the parish Church, near the font, in the meanest manner, according to the due deserts of my sins. And touching such worldly goods, that it hath pleased God to bestow upon me, for which I give him most humble thanks and due acknowledgement, that he hath plentifully supplied me, and that I never had any wants. In the first place I desire, that my executor should give towards the adorning of the font, either by way of painting or otherwise, as the church-wardens shall

think fit, the sum of 40s. and I do humbly thank God for the benefit of my Baptism. Item, I do give a hundred poor housekeepers of this parish 12d. a piece. Item, to all my poor parishioners of Stapleford, 12d. a piece. Item, to all my poor parishioners of West Ildesley in Berks 12d. a piece. Item, I do give the tenement in Yale and the two tenements in Carnarvonshire, viz. Coed mawr and Tŷ dû, to the town of Ruthin in Denbighshire, where I was born, the tenements are purchased in the names of others in trust, and “ are to be disposed of by the Lords Bishops of Bangor and St. Asaph, when it shall please God that they shall be restored, and by the Chief Justice and second Justice of Chester and the Warden of Ruthin, and by the heirs of brother Gabriel, who is now William Salusbury of Rûg, and by the heirs of my sister Susan, being now William Parry of Llŵyn Ynn, and by the heirs of Charles Goodman of Glanhespın, to the heirs of my sister Jane, who is Gabriel Goodman of Nantglyn and his heirs male, and to the heirs of my sister Martha, who married Justice Prytherch in Anglesey, and until such time as the bishops of Bangor and St. Asaph shall be restored, it shall be in the power of those to nominate two churchmen, incumbents upon their benefices, not dwelling eight miles from Ruthin, to supply the places of those bishops, who shall have the same power as the bishops should have had; and I desire all the lands may be at the letting out and disposal of them in this manner: That the rent of the tenement in Yale shall be weekly given to the relief of the poor of Ruthin; yet so that it shall not continue in the same course above three years together; for the tenements in Carnarvonshire, which amount to forty pounds yearly, I desire that five pounds thereof might be spent at their meeting, which I desire wholly at the appointment of the Chief Justice of Chester, and I wish it might be one day in Michaelmas Assizes, and for the other five and thirty pounds, I desire that fifteen pounds thereof may be paid for the binding out two apprentices, yet that they may not be bound within the principality of Wales, where we have not any working trade in its full perfection, and for the other twenty pounds, I desire that choice may be made of some gentlemen who shall desire to travel, and that together with good security shall undertake within the compass of

two years, to live two months in Germany, two months in Italy, two months in France, and two months in Spain; I desire that my own kindred should be chosen before others, and such as have had their breeding in the school of Ruthin, and for want of those, such as have been born within the principality of Wales, and the house of Talar in Flintshire may be preferred before others, and in the choice of the gentleman I desire that no relation should be had to his poverty, but pulchrior doctior nobilior cæteris paribus antefendus, and so I do repose the trust in the Chief Justice and others for the letting out of the tenements; so I desire them to take special care for the preserving and planting of wood, and I do give all there now, or that hereafter shall grow there, except the necessary timber to be used about the ground or houses, towards repairing or building of churches within that county by the appointment of the Chief Justice and others, yet so that in one year they shall not give above the twentieth part of it, and what is so given shall appear under the hands of the greater part of the feoffees, in whom I have reposed trust for that purpose; and whereas I have purchased the perpetual patronage of Kemerton, and have settled it upon the hospital of St. Bartholomew's in Gloucester, with this condition, that unless I have a kinsman of my own, descended from my grand-father Edward Goodman, who shall be of my name and capable of it, and shall make means within three months after the vacancy; this kinsman must be nominated long before by the feoffees in trust, for if he omits his three months, he is made incapable to demand it; and as for the rest of my estate, being so small as it is, having had those great losses that I have had, I must intreat my friends to accept of small legacies; Item, I give and bequeath to my sister Jonnet Goodman of Rûg, the sum of five pounds, and to her daughter my cousin Mary Salusbury,\* being my heir at common law, I

\* Mary Goodman, alias Salusbury, sole daughter and heiress of Gabriel Goodman of Abinbury, Prothonotary of North Wales, married October the 28th, 1635, Owen Salusbury of Rûg, by whom among other issue she had Dorothy her eldest daughter, born 16th November, 1636. The said Dorothy married John Wynne of Melai, the 16th of April, 1651, by whom she had issue William Wynne of Melai, also Dorothy and Barbara. Dorothy married Thomas Wynne of Dyffrynaled, by whom she had Robert Wynne of Dyffrynaled: Robert married Elizabeth Foulkes of Merriadog and Carregfynedd, and had issue Pierce Wynne and Dorothy. Pierce Wynne married Margaret, daughter to Robert Wynne of Garthwin, and had issue Diana Wynne of Dyffrynaled, Dorothy married William Thomas of Coedhalen, and left issue,

give a hundred marks ; Item, to my sister Martha Prytherch of Anglesey I do give five pounds ; Item, I give to my cousin Charles Goodman of Glanhospin five pounds ; Item, I give to my cousin William Parry of Llŵyn Ynn and his sister five pounds ; Item, I do give to my cousin Ellin Goodman of Nantglyn, with many thanks for her care in educating her children, five pounds ; Item, I do give my cousin Charles Goodman, glazier, forty shillings, and to his brother John Goodman, virginal-maker, forty shillings ; Item, to Mrs. Slatyr I give three pounds, in regard of the great care she hath with her aged father. These legacies I desire might be paid out of those bonds which are due unto me and undoubtedly good debts, but of such money as I have in the house I leave to Gabriel Goodman, my sister's grand-child, for his pains in the time of my sickness and his care at my funeral ; Item, I have placed trust in Mrs. Sylla Aglomby, I leave her five pounds, and give her the bed and blankets which are in her house ; Item, I leave her a box and a key which I desire may not be opened, and if I have any other small things in her house I do freely give her, in hope and confidence that she will discharge the small trust which I have reposed in her ; Item, after all church duties and funeral expences being paid, I desire that what is now left in the house may be distributed according to the discretion of my executor among those ministers that were deprived of their benefices by that long and most unjust parliament, God forgive them and their committees, which will be sixteen pounds ; and further, whereas I am to receive some money upon bonds, the 6th day of May next, from Sir Benjamin Agliffe, I desire that one hundred pounds thereof may be given amongst those poor distressed churchmen according to the good discretion of my executor. Item, the books I intended for Chelsea College (the college, being now dissolved) I do bestow them upon Trinity College, Cambridge, with this condition, that, if ever Chelsea College be restored, the books shall likewise be restored. Item, whereas I have taken a great deal of pains in writing of notes, my desire is, that some scholar may be employed to peruse them all over, and if any thing should be found worthy the printing, that then some course may be taken for the publishing of them ; and the scholar, when he hath so taken pains, shall be

rewarded with ten pounds; and I repose the whole care of this business to Mr. Francis Westby, and he is to find the scholar and to order things accordingly. And here I do from my soul ask forgiveness of God and of all others whom I have offended, and I heartily forgive all men, and do confess, that if I was guilty to myself, that if I had wronged any man to the value of one farthing, I would make satisfaction with recompence: And I do hereby constitute and appoint my sole executor Gabriel Goodman, one who now lives with me, to whom I give all the rest of my goods, chattels and debts whatsoever, in hope and confidence that he will be careful of his brothers and sisters, and so beseeching God to bless all the estates of men, and to send times of peace and quietness in this church, and to restore her to her just revenues and honor, and to send peace in the christian world for the sparing of the effusion of christian blood, and I do hereby conclude with my last words, into thy hands O Lord I recommend my soul; Lord Jesus receive my soul!

In witness hereof I have hereunto subscribed my hand and seal,

*Godf. Goodman.*

Sealed, subscribed and declared this to be my  
last will and testament in the presence of

*R. H.—S. A.—L. P.—M. S.*

This will was proved in London before the Judges for probate of wills, and carefully authorized the 16th of February, in the year of our Lord 1655, by the oath of Gabriel Goodman, kinsman to the deceased and sole executor, named in the said will, of all and singular the goods, chattels and debts of the said deceased, being first legally sworn truly to administer the same.

*Thos. Wetham,*  
REG. DEP.

## No. XVIII.

*Sir Thomas Hanmer's Epitaph.*

EPITAPHIUM in THOMAM HANMER, Baronettum.

Honorabilis admodum Thomas Hanmer Baronettus  
Wilhelmi Hanmer armigeri, e Peregrina Henrici North  
De Mildenhall in Com. Suffolciæ Baronetti Sorore & Hærede,  
Filius,

Johannis Hanmer de Hanmer Baronetti  
Hæres Patruelis,

Antiquo Gentis suæ et titulo et patrimonio successit.

Duas Uxores sortitus est;

Alteram Isabellam, honore a patre derivato, de  
Arlington Comitissam,

Deinde celsissimi principis ducis de Grafton viduam dotatam;

Alteram Elizabetham Thomæ Folks de Barton in  
Com. Suff. Armigeri  
Filiam et Hæredem.

Inter humanitatis studia feliciter enutritus,  
Omnes liberalium Artium disciplinas avide arripuit,  
Quas morum suavitate haud leviter ornavit.

Postquam excessit ex ephebis,  
Continuo inter populares suos fama eminens,  
Et Comitatus sui legatus ad Parliamentum missus,  
Ad ardua regni negotia per Annos prope triginta  
Se accinxit;

Cumq: apud illos amplissimorum virorum ordines  
Soleret nihil temere effutire,  
Sed *probe* perpensa diserte expromere  
Orator gravis et pressus,



SIR THOMAS HANMER.

*Speaker of the House of Commons.  
From a Picture at Bettisfield.*

*Published Aug: 1<sup>st</sup> 1798. by Philip Yorke Esq. Wrexham.*



Non minus integritatis quam eloquentiæ laude  
 commendatus,  
 Æque omnium utcunq; inter se aliisque dissidentium  
 Aures atque animos attraxit;  
 Annoque demum MDCCXIII, regnante Anna,  
 Felicissimæ florentissimæque memoriæ Regina,  
 Ad prolocutoris Cathedram  
 Communi senatûs universi voce designatus est:  
 Quod Munus,  
 Cum nullo tempore non difficile,  
 Tum illo certe negotiis  
 Et variis et lubricis et implicatis difficillimum  
 Cum dignitate sustinuit.  
 Honores alios, et omnia, quæ sibi in lucrum cederent, Munera  
 Sedulo detrectavit,  
 Ut rei totus inserviret publicæ,  
 Justi rectique tenax,  
 Et fide in patriam incorrupta notus.  
 Ubi omnibus, quæ virum, civeinque bonum decent, officiis satisfecit,  
 Paulatim se a publicis Consiliis in Otium recipiens  
 Inter literarum amœnitates,  
 Inter ante actæ vitæ haud insuaves recordationes,  
 Inter amicorum convictus et amplexus,  
 Honorificè consenuit,  
 Et bonis omnibus, quibus charissimus vixit,  
 Desideratissimus obiit.

---

No. XIX.

*Sir Thomas Hanmer's Epitaph Paraphras'd.*

THOU, who survey'st these walls with curious eye,  
 Pause on this tomb—where Hanmer's ashes lie.

His various worth, thro' varied life attend,  
 And learn his virtues, while thou mourn'st his end:  
 His force of genius burn'd in early youth,  
 With thirst of knowledge and with love of truth,  
 His learning join'd with each endearing art  
 Charm'd every ear, and gain'd on every heart;  
 Thus early wise th' endanger'd realm to aid,  
 His country call'd him from the studious shade;  
 In life's first bloom his public toils began,  
 At once commenc'd the senator and man;  
 In bus'ness dextrous, weighty in debate,  
 Thrice ten long years, he labor'd for the State;  
 In every speech persuasive wisdom flow'd,  
 In ev'ry act refulgent virtue glow'd;  
 Suspended faction ceas'd from rage and strife,  
 To hear his eloquence and praise his life;  
 Resistless merit fix'd the senate's choice,  
 Who hail'd him Speaker with united voice.  
 Illustrious age! How bright thy glories shone,  
 When Hanmer fill'd the chair, and Anne the throne!  
 Then—when dark arts obscur'd each fierce debate,  
 When mutual frauds perplex'd the maze of state;  
 The moderator firmly mild appear'd,  
 Beheld with love, with veneration heard.  
 This task perform'd, he sought no gainful post,  
 Nor wish'd to glitter at his country's cost;  
 Strict on the right, he fix'd his stedfast eye,  
 With temp'rate zeal and wise anxiety;  
 Nor e'er from virtue's path was turn'd aside  
 To pluck the flow'rs of pleasure or of pride;  
 Her gifts despis'd, corruption blush'd and fled  
 And fame pursu'd him, where conviction led:  
 Age call'd, at length, his active mind to rest,  
 With honor sated and with cares oppress;

To letter'd ease retir'd and honest mirth,  
 To rural grandeur and domestic worth,  
 Delighted still to please mankind or mend,  
 The patriot's fire yet sparkled in the friend.  
 Calm conscience then his former life survey'd,  
 And recollected toils endear'd the shade ;  
 Till nature call'd him to the gen'ral doom,  
 And virtue's sorrow dignify'd his tomb.\*

\* See the Gentleman's Magazine for May 1747.

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No. XX.

*Inscription on Sir William Williams's Monument in Llansilin  
 Church, in Denbighshire.*

H. S. E.

HONORATISSIMUS VIR GULIELMUS WILLIAMS

De Glascoed—Miles et Baronettus :

Omnibus ingenii animique dotibus illustris ;

In foro civili inter primarios suæ Ætatis

Togatos, semper præclarus,

Et tantum non purpuratis adscriptus,

Quippe qui in facultate sua opus

Potius quam honores, aut magistratum, amavit ;

Ac prodesse quam præesse, maluit ;

Adeo in consiliis sagax, in dicendo promptus,

Ad negotia habilis,

Ut dignus habitus est, qui in altera Senatus

Domo, sæpius sedem, bis Cathedram teneret,

Orator peritissimus.

In his publicis et amicorum rebus  
 Dum esset occupatus,  
 Nihil interim de propriis remisit,  
 Quod familiæ suæ dignitatem aut censum augeret.  
 Ex uxore meritissima,  
 Filios habuit duos, Filiam unicam;  
 Quos omnes tam larga, et quod rarius,  
 Viva manu, ditavit,  
 Ac si eorum quemlibet hæredem  
 Adscripserat.  
 Obiit Londini x—die Julii MDCC Æt: 66.  
 Hic magno sumptu, licet meritis impari sepultus,  
 Expectat immortalitatem.

---

No. XXI.

*Epitaph on Mary Vanbutchell.*

IN reliquias MARIÆ VANBUTCHELL  
 Novo miraculo conservatas  
 et a marito suo superstite,  
 Cultu quotidiano, adoratas.  
 Hic, exorsus tumuli, jacet  
 Uxor Johannis Vanbutchel,  
 Integra omnino et incorrupta;  
 Viri sui amantissimi  
 Desiderium simul et Deliciæ;  
 Quam gravi morbo vitiata,  
 Consumptamque tandem longa morte,  
 In hunc quem cernis nitorem,  
 In hanc speciem et colorem viventis  
 Ab indecora putredine vindicavit,



SIR WILLIAM WILLIAMS BAR.<sup>T</sup>

*Recorder of Chester.*

Speaker of the House of Commons, and Solicitor General. 

*From a Picture in the Town Hall of Chester.*

.....  
*Published Aug. 1. 1798 by Philip Yorke Esq. Wrexham.*



Invita et repugnante natura  
 Vir egregius Gulielmus Hunterus  
 Artificii prius intentati  
 Inventor idem et Perfector.  
 O fortunatum maritum  
 Cui datur  
 Uxorem multum amatam  
 Retinere una, in unis ædibus,  
 Affari, tangere, complecti;  
 Propter dormire, si lubet,  
 Non Fatis modo superstitem  
 Sed (quod pluris æstimandum,  
 Nam non est vivere, sed placere vita)  
 Etiam suaviorem,  
 Venustiore,  
 Habitiorem,  
 Solidam magis, et magis succi plenam  
 Quam cum ipsa in vivis fuerit!  
 O fortunatum virum! et invidendum!  
 Cui peculiare hoc, et proprium contingit,  
 Apud se habere fœminam  
 Non variam, non mutabilem,  
 Egregie taciturnam,  
 Et omnibus horis eandem.

---

No. XXII.

*A literal Translation for the Benefit of the Ladies,*

*By a Noble LORD.*

HERE covered not by earth or stone,  
 Lies John Vanbutchell's wife alone :

His pleasure, joy, and sole desire,  
 Quite uncorrupted, and entire :  
 Who was preserved by Hunter's art,  
 When death had shot his fatal dart.  
 Behold her now 'gainst nature's will,  
 With face so fair, and blooming still.  
 O Husband blest ! who in one house,  
 Can still retain one charming spouse,  
 Can speak to, kiss, and with her toy,  
 And sleep close by ; if such his joy :  
 Who now exists, not as you see,  
 The Fates would choose to have her be ;  
 But what's more wond'rous, is much sweeter,  
 More perfect too in limb and feature ;  
 More firm her flesh, more full of juice,  
 And fitter for domestic use.  
 O fortunate and envy'd Van !  
 To keep a wife beyond life's span ;  
 Whom you can ne'er have cause to blame ;  
 Is ever constant and the same ;  
 Who qualities most rare, inherits,  
 A wife that's dumb ; yet full of spirits.

---

No. XXIII.

*Note to the House of Caergai.*

OF the House of Caergai was Rowland Vaughan, who flourished in the middle of the last century, called Rolant Fychan y Cyfieithydd, or the translator ; because he translated several pious books into Welsh, particularly Bishop Bailey's Practice of Piety, and Dr. Brough's Manual of Prayer ; which last was at the request of Colonel William Salusbury, of Bachymbydd, commonly called Blue Stockings, the sturdy governor

of Denbigh castle, in the civil wars of the last century; at whose expence it was printed and distributed among the poor. Salusbury was also active in repairing several churches that were defaced, and he founded and endowed the chapel at Rûg. Vaughan, besides being a translator, was an author in Welsh prose of good credit.

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No. XXIV.

*Note to Humphrey Hughes.*

HUMPHREY HUGHES of Gwerclas, was born in 1605, married Maudlen Rogers, aged thirteen, in 1615, was Sheriff in 1620, ut patet by his own memorandums and the roll of Sheriffs. He married afterwards Eleanor Savage of Chester, in 1659. In 1662, he married Sarah Franklin, of Cambridgeshire, and in 1666, Eleanor Mutton\*.

\* The British pronunciation of the letter *y* in Mytton is the same with that of *u*, in Mutton after the English, and both a local name, as should appear by the termination *ton*, but where the place so called is situated I know not.





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# ERRATA.



- Page 4 Line 18 *Note, for Walburgh's, read Werburgh's.*  
 — 6 — 5 *Note, after Ludlow, read where it sate.*  
 — 15 — 7 *Note, during Robert and Maredudd's time,*  
                   *read during Robert ab Maredudd's time.*  
 — 20 — 2 *Note, for Sampson, read Sampson Roberts.*  
 — 21 — 5 *Note<sup>h</sup>, for that, read the Archdeaconry of*  
                   *St. Asaph.*  
 — 32 — 2 *Note<sup>r</sup>, for tho, read the.*  
 — 33 — 2 *Note<sup>z</sup>, for He restored his nephew Henry*  
                   *the Second, read He was the instrument*  
                   *of restoring his nephew, Henry, to the*  
                   *throne of England, altho' that event took*  
                   *place after Gloucester's death.*  
 — 39 — 5 *the following Note was omitted.* The politic  
                   Henry rendered this journey and his  
                   return through South Wales conducive  
                   to the interests of his Country; for by  
                   conversing familiarly with the Welsh  
                   Princes, loading them with presents, and  
                   conferring shewy, though unsubstantial  
                   dignities on the most ambitious, he found  
                   means to break that union, which had  
                   hitherto rendered all his measures against  
                   their independency abortive.  
 — 44 — 5 *leave out* four years after.  
 — 48 — 2 *Note, for Brockwel, read Brochwel.*  
 — 60 — 16 *after Cynllaeth Owain, read from him*  
                   *called Owain.*  
 — 60 — 21 *for Mockuant, read Mochnant.*  
 — 61 — 2 *for he, read Madog ab Maredudd.*  
 — — — 5 *for by Madog ab Maredudd, read by him.*  
 — 76 — 12 *for Corbert, read Corbet.*

- Page 78 Line 7 for he gave her, read he had given her.  
 — 87 — 2 Note, for Carleton, read Charleton.  
 — 96 — 18 for Mdog, read Madog.  
 — 97 — 9 Note, for sauguine, read sanguine.  
 — 107 — 9 Note, for 1695, read 1595, and in the same  
     Page and Line for 1613, read 1603.  
 — 112 — 8 Note, for male, read meal, and in the same  
     Page the small Note \*, should be applied to  
     Margaret sister to the memorable Sir  
     John Owen, Page 115 Line 7.  
 — 118 — 22 for Walter, read Robert.  
 — 125 — 6 for Cemmaes, read Nannau.  
 — 129 — 4 Note, for Briddydd, read Brydydd.  
 — 134 — 23 after male line, read of Newtown.  
 — 135 — 1 Note <sup>y</sup>, for Martin, read John Vanbutchel.  
 — 140 — 14 No. III. for Llandda, read Llandaff.  
 — 159 — 15 for sonne, read sonnes.  
 — 160 — 2 No. XIII. for Richardas, read Richardus.  
 — 161 — 2 for Episcopas, read Episcopus.  
 — 162 — 32 for is, read his.  
 — 164 — 30 for in Gregynog, read at Gregynog.  
 — — 31 for sixty-first, read eighty-first.  
 — 165 — 1 for Nordon's, read Norden's.  
 — — 8 for several manors, read the several ma-  
     nors.  
 — — 22 for out of crown, read out of the crown.  
 — 166 — 5 for and sinecures, read of sinecures.  
 — — 9 for of no profit, read of small profit.  
 — — 14 for Littora, read Litora.  
 — — 15 for which, read much.  
 — 172 — 23 for accinixit, read accinxit.  
 — 173 — 3 for alioque, read alioqui.  
 — 177 — 24 for Omnibus horis, read Horis omnibus.

## ADVERTISEMENT.



THE Author of this small work would attempt to enlarge it through the Fifteen Common Tribes, and would hazard another publication (correcting the errors of this) with some additional Engravings, if the Families descended from them were pleased to communicate their Pedigrees, and what biographical matter and anecdote belong to them. This is the more necessary, nay indispensable, as the Founders of these Tribes have little, or no notice taken of them in History.

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